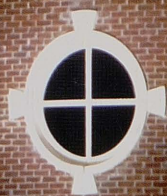


# *the* APACHE

SPRING 2012

A TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

Center for Earth and  
Space Science Education





# the APACHE

VOL. XXVII, NO. 1  
SPRING 2012

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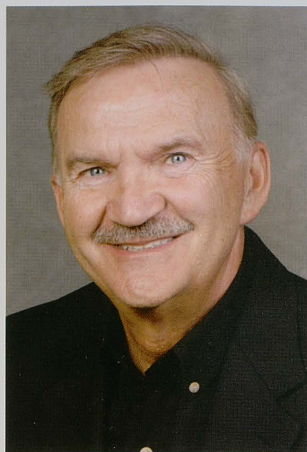
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# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Another school year has come to a close and graduates are preparing to enter the work force or transfer to continue their education at a university.*

*These are moments of celebration and reward. As our students look back upon their time at TJC, I know that most of them will not remember who was president at the time but will recall instead the connections they made with their instructors and classmates. They'll recall projects that brought groups together and the friends and events that made up their sophomore year.*

*I hope many of them had the opportunity to learn about making positive things happen for others as well.*

*After my second year of college, I chose to be a part of a global effort to help others by joining the Peace Corps. It was the experience of a lifetime for me – living in the rainforest with settlers who were trying to carve out a better life for themselves and their families in a place without electricity or running water. Our small settlement was two hours by horseback from the nearest town, if the river (Rio Ahogados- "River of the Drowned") could safely be crossed by horseback. Otherwise we were cut off from the rest of the world and we had to rely completely on each other.*

*Like so many others who served, I got much more back from my experiences than I could ever give. I learned that happiness is mostly internal. These people who had so little were some of the kindest, most generous and happiest people I would ever meet.*

*Over the past three years, we have taken students from TJC and The University of Texas at Tyler to that same region of northern Costa Rica to work on service projects much like those the Peace Corps oversaw in the 1960s. The professors from UT Tyler and TJC who are taking their students for the service projects both are former Peace Corps Volunteers that served in Latin America and are fluent in Spanish. We have connected with local leaders, some of whom I knew as children 40 years ago and we are now working with a new generation of Peace Corps Volunteers.*

*This spring, UT Tyler President Dr. Rod Mabry and his wife, Merle, will accompany me and Donna as we assist with projects in Dos Rios, Costa Rica, focusing on public health. It will be a great opportunity for these young men and women to learn about community service and about helping others.*

*In addition to performing short comedic skits for children on such topics as first aid and healthy living, our group will work to place a new roof on a rural public health clinic, which provides primary and preventive health care for residents. Our student nurses will also help with some basic health assessments.*

*This will be the first time one of our groups has worked extensively with Peace Corps volunteers based in Costa Rica, and we hope it is the beginning of a continuing partnership to provide service projects to the region that are beneficial to the residents while providing memorable experiences and encounters for our students.*

Michael Metke  
President, Tyler Junior College



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TJC celebrated its 85th anniversary with a Black & Gold Exhibit at Tyler Museum of Art. The exhibit included items from public and private collections of TJC memorabilia. Cutting the ribbon on opening day, from left, are: TJC Trustee David Hudson; TJC President Dr. Mike Metke; TJC Trustee Dr. Joe Prud'homme; TJC Foundation Board Member Lee Gibson; TJC Trustee John Hills; Smith County Judge Joel Baker; TJC Director of Library Services Marian Jackson; Tyler Chamber of Commerce Chief Operating Officer Henry Bell; and TJC Alumni Association President Jon Jacobs.



## For Mercy's sake Hospital ship brings student out of Africa to TJC

TJC Trustees Ann Brookshire (left) and Peggy Smith spent two unforgettable weeks volunteering aboard the Africa Mercy hospital ship in Sierra Leone.

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## ON THE COVER:

The Center for Earth & Space Science Education shines on a clear East Texas night. For more on the science center, please see Page 20. Photograph by Allen Arrick.



# GO APACHES

## National Championship Soccer Team



## Women's soccer caps perfect season with a national title

### Women's Soccer

- The TJC women's soccer team capped a perfect, 24-0 season in 2011 by defeating Darton College, 1-0, to win their second national championship in three years. The championship was held in Melbourne, Fla. In 2009, the ladies won the national title on their home turf at Pat Hartley Field. In four years, Coach Corey Rose's team has lost just four matches, three of which were in the first year of the program.
- Sophomore Lauren Emmerson was named the NSCAA Player of the Year. Emmerson and teammate Chelsea Palmer were named NJCAA All-Americans.

### Men's Soccer

- Men's soccer finished tied for third in the nation and had an impressive 18-1-4 record. Chris McGuaghey and Samuel Hossemi were named NSCAA All-Americans.
- Former Apache Dom Dwyer was the 16th pick in the 2012 Major League Soccer draft by Sporting Kansas City, a first for the Apache soccer program.

### Volleyball

- Volleyball reached as high as No. 3 in the country, which is the highest ranking ever for the program. Jaqueline Santos was named an NJCAA First Team All-American, becoming only the second Apache to ever receive that honor.

### Football

- The Apache football team finished the year ranked 18th in the country. In the SWJCFC semifinals, the Apaches upset previously undefeated and No. 1 ranked Blinn, 37-34, in overtime in Brenham, before falling to Navarro 33-29 in the championship game.

### Women's Basketball

- The Apache ladies basketball team advanced to the conference championship game against top-ranked Trinity Valley Community College but came up just short despite a valiant effort. The team finished the season with a 25-8 record and was ranked No 17 in the last NJCAA poll. The club's 25 wins were the most since the 2006-07 season when TJC advanced to the national tournament.

### Men's Basketball

- Former Apache Jimmy Butler, who spent the last two seasons as a starter at Marquette University, was a first-round NBA draft pick by the Chicago Bulls.
- The Apache men's basketball team ended its season at 18-8 after advancing to the quarterfinals of the Region XIV tournament and losing to defending conference champion Lamar State-Port Arthur, 62-58. The squad carried just two sophomores into the season and appears to have a bright future with 10 players set to return in 2012-13.

### Baseball

- The Apache baseball team, who play as an independent, held a record of 28-18 overall and ranked No. 9 in the latest NJCAA poll.

### Women's Tennis

- Kerrie Cartwright and Audrey Leitz won the doubles championship at the 2011 USTA/ITA National Small College "Super Bowl" Championships at the Copeland-Cox Tennis Center in Mobile, Ala. Their win marks the first time a women's JUCO representative has won the Super Bowl since 1997.
- The Apache Ladies clinched their third straight national title on their home court May 9, in the NJCAA Women's National Championships held at the JoAnn Medlock Murphy Tennis Center.

### Men's Tennis

- TJC men's tennis is 8-6 overall after a slow, 0-3 start to the season and is currently ranked No. 4 in the latest ITA/NJCAA polls.

### Women's Golf

- Maraea Durie and Sarah Murray have both won a tournament this year, and the team is currently ranked No. 8 in the latest NJCAA poll.

### Men's Golf

- The men's golf team won one tournament and placed in Top 10 at all 10 tournaments this year and is currently ranked No. 6 in the latest NJCAA poll.



# GO APACHES

## Circle of Honor



## Seven Apaches added to Circle of Honor

Tyler Junior College recognized a new group of inductees into the TJC Sports Circle of Honor during an awards luncheon on March 3.

The awards ceremony was held Gentry Gym, inside the Ornelas Health & Physical Education Center, and followed with a reception in the new Floyd Wagstaff Museum, located inside Wagstaff Gymnasium.

Inductees were also introduced to the crowd during half-time of the men's basketball game against Lamar State College - Port Arthur that afternoon.

### **The 2012 inductees were:**

- Jimmy Edelen (1952-1954) - Basketball
- Wayne Hill (1954-1955) - Football
- Vern Lewis (1964-1966) - Basketball
- Randy Mattingley (1974-1976) - Tennis
- Donnie Murphy (1958-1959) - Football
- Charlotte Reescano (1982-1984) - Basketball
- Gene Staples (1959-1961) - Football

"We are delighted to recognize individuals who have excelled in athletics and in life with their induction into the Circle of Honor," said Dr. Tim Drain, TJC director of intercollegiate athletics.

The Circle of Honor was established in 1995 to honor former TJC student-athletes, coaches and special contributors to the athletic program who have excelled



*Gene Shannon (left) congratulates newest gold jacket recipient Vern Lewis at the Sports Circle of Honor ceremony.*

in athletics and made an impact on the lives of others.

**Previous inductees into the Circle of Honor are:** Floyd Wagstaff, football and basketball coach and athletic director; Brady P. Gentry, special contributor; James "Babe" Hallmark, football and football coach; Charlie McGinty, football and football coach; Billy Jack Doggett, basketball player and athletic director; Roy Thomas, basketball player and coach; Lee Ann Riley, basketball player and coach; Fred Kniffen, tennis coach; Robert Cox, tennis player and coach; Harry Bostic, Kelly Chapman, Herbert Richardson, O'Neal Weaver, James "Poo" Welch, Bonnie Buchanan Gray, Russell Boone, Janice

Mulford, V.C. "Buck" Overall, Jose Palafox, Foster Bullock, Van Samford, Milton Williams, Jesse Marshall, Robert Pack, Johnny Johnston, Jana Crosby Russell, Bryan Miller, Ardie D. Dixon, C.L. Nix, Evelyn Joe Troell Newman, David Rodriguez, Jack Sweeny, Scotti Wood, Rosie Aldridge Smart, Acker Hanks, Burl Plunkett and Tommy Sawyer, basketball; Bill "Tiger" Johnson, David Lunceford, Jimmy Murphy, Mack Pogue, Jimmy Dickey, Leon Fuller, Bill Herchman, John Linney, Dan Page, Lawrence Strickland, Dwain Bean, Kenneth Bahnsen, Kenneth Coffey, Jack Murphy, Raymond McGallion, Gene Shannon, Charles Quilter, Royce Townsend, Earl Dotson, Jim Wright, Lloyd L. Pate, Robert "Bob" Price, Richard Farris, Robert Talkington, Aubrey Schulz and Bobby Page, football; and Dessie M. Samuels and Judy Kniffen Clardy, tennis.



Follow the Apaches and Apache Ladies sports teams all year long at [www.apacheathletics.com](http://www.apacheathletics.com)



# Vital signs

*TJC fills critical need for the health care community*

By Fred Peters

Director of Marketing & Public Affairs



**Promise No. 1: A Quality Education**



Sixty years ago, Tyler Junior College was just celebrating its sixth year at the campus on East Fifth Street and enjoying tremendous growth, as the wave of post-war veterans continued to take advantage of the GI bill.

TJC enrolled more veterans than any other junior college in Texas, and the addition of vocational programs was key to that growth.

In 1952, President Harry Jenkins solidified an arrangement with the local medical community to create a new venture – a school of nursing.

The Texas Eastern School of Nursing would, for many years, be a separate TJC entity, managed by a separate board comprised of representatives from TJC, Mother Frances Hospital and Medical Center Hospital.

The school later was incorporated into the TJC landscape of academic offerings, but the support TJC received from Tyler's growing medical community would remain unchanged.

During the 1970s, Tyler's growth sparked the expansion of both hospitals and that of the University of Texas Health Science Center. With Tyler's increasing reputation as a destination for medical procedures, the need for trained medical personnel grew. TJC added dental hygiene, respiratory therapy, medical lab technology, ophthalmic dispensing, radiologic technology and vocational nursing.

Today, the college graduates more than 600 students into the health care workforce each year. And, the College has clinical agreements with 213 hospitals and clinics throughout East Texas, allowing students in these fields to gain hands-on experience.

"We have highly qualified faculty members who are involved with these fully accredited programs; so when these students come to TJC, they're getting into a program that's well established," said Paul Monagan, TJC dean of nursing and health sciences.

"People come in and say, 'I was at the hospital and the young person working on me was a graduate of TJC and she took excellent care of me,' and



*A proposed TJC School of Nursing and Health Sciences facility would more than triple the classroom and laboratory space of its current programs and add more than 100,000 square feet of academic space in a multi-story, state-of-the-art facility.*

they're so grateful that we've done a good job, and that's what we want to do. That's our mission."

The programs are competitive. Once admitted to TJC, students must apply for admission to a nursing or health sciences program. At any given time, there are approximately 1,100 students studying in a health career field and another 2,300 taking prerequisites in hopes they too will be admitted.

That competition for the best helps keep TJC's programs among the tops in Texas. TJC's health sciences programs regularly rate among the top performers statewide in certification exams – and job placement is nearly 100 percent.

"The recruiting needs in the health care industry are always growing," said Alan York, Trinity Mother Frances Hospitals and Clinics director of recruitment. "As the patient population continues to age, we see more and more people turning to the health care industry for solutions. That means we always need good people to fill the positions we have.

"We have a great employment base in Tyler and a lot of that is attributed to the great students we have at TJC. Why go out of the state when we have people in our own backyard?"

As the health care industry continues to change and Tyler's reputation as a source for health care advances, TJC is ready to meet the

need with growing programs in health sciences.


York said, "As we see technology advancing, we need a workforce that can match the competencies of the demands of these technologies. As we look at the workforce of the future, the workers need to be technology savvy, they need to understand the technology that surrounds them while still providing great patient care."

Tomorrow's health care students at TJC may be studying in such fields as nuclear medicine, geriatric specialties, rehabilitation therapies, echocardiography or digital medical records technology.

"We want to be an extension of the human resource offices of our local hospitals. When they need help for workforce development, we're there," Monagan said.

"We want to meet that need as we see the hospitals expanding. It's a critical need to have those people available when expansion takes place and we want to see this become an even larger medical hub."

TJC is aware of these ever-changing demands and stands ready to provide health care training that is relevant and technologically advanced.

For more information on TJC's School of Nursing and Health Sciences, go to [www.tjc.edu/nhp](http://www.tjc.edu/nhp). 



# THE POWER OF PINK

## Tour for the Cure brings out fitness enthusiasts for breast cancer awareness, health programs

By Fred Peters  
Director of Marketing & Public Affairs

Before the sun began to creep over the rim of Trinity Mother Frances Rose Stadium and cascade across colorful petals at the Tyler Rose Garden, dozens of fitness enthusiasts were gathering, stretching and anticipating a special day.

Some drove from as far as the San Antonio area to participate in a first for TJC, and Tyler, on Oct. 21, 2011.

The occasion was Tour for the Cure, a day of fitness activities planned to increase awareness of TJC's growing school of nursing and health sciences, as well as to contribute to the local Susan G. Komen fund for breast cancer.

Some came because of their bicycling enthusiasm, others in tribute to a cancer survivor or victim. Many were on site to represent TJC's 11 nursing and health science programs.

"We were looking for something that celebrates our promise number 3 of community service and that recognizes our role as a community partner," said Mitch Andrews, director of principal gifts for the TJC Foundation and one of the event's organizers. "We wanted to do something that would benefit TJC and benefit another significant program in our community. And so, we created Tour for the Cure."

Throughout Mike Carter Field's parking lot and flowing onto the adjacent properties of Rose Stadium and Harvey Convention Center was a sea of pink T-shirts, representing cancer survivors, volunteers and ride and walk participants.

The day not only raised funds and awareness for the two worthy causes, it brought memories.

"My best friend's mother, Denise Hess, passed away on Easter Day (2011)," said Salena Rozell, a student in TJC's associate degree nursing program who has since graduated. "She battled breast cancer for a year and it progressed. She developed brain cancer and passed away. It was very tragic and I am here to say


she's in my heart today."

Mary Lowe, a former Apache Belle and member of Belle Gold, was named Survivor of the Year for the event.

"I'm so excited about what Tyler Junior College has done. I'm so thankful and appreciative to Dr. Metke, Dr. Russell, to Jasilyn Schaefer and the whole Apache Belle alumni, the school of nursing, everyone connected to this," she said.

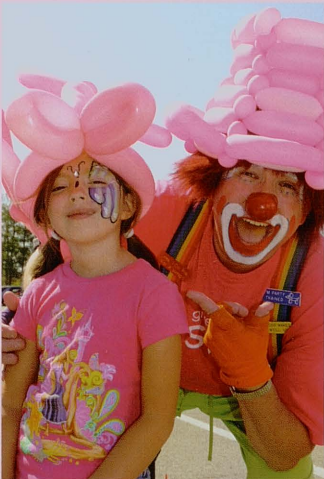
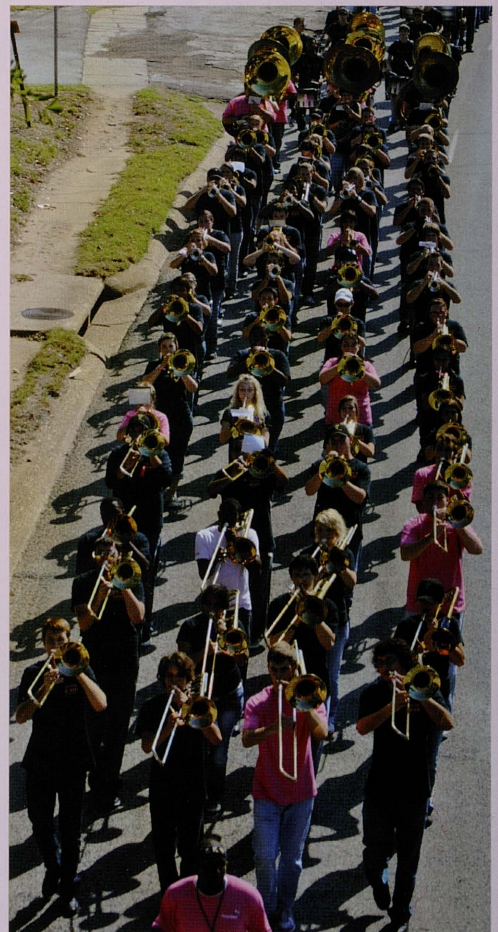
"Forty-thousand women this year will lose their lives to breast cancer. One in eight will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. So the more awareness we have, the more educated women are, the better, and events like this make that possible."

More than 1,000 people participated in Tour for the Cure by walking, biking, dancing in the Zumba-thon, watching TJC's football game against Lon Morris College, attending the benefit car show and participating in health care screenings.

The events committees gathered in November to assess the success of Tour for the Cure and plan for future fitness and awareness events. Plans are beginning for a similar fitness event to be held on the TJC campus in 2013. 











## Promise No. 2: A Vibrant Student Life

*The TJC Apache Marching Band is the largest and most visible element of Tyler Junior College band program. Approximately 200 members strong, the Apache Band is a popular attraction at TJC football games and parades.*

# Sound beginnings

*Apache Band program creates excellence, memories of a lifetime*

By Allen Arrick  
Photographer/Graphic Designer

For a tuba player like Clay Garrett, there are very few professional performance jobs available. There are even fewer jobs playing tuba for the president of the United States.

The Tyler Junior College graduate spent part of his winter break driving to Washington, D.C., to audition for the United States Marine Band, also known as the "President's Own," since it performs at all presidential functions, including inaugurations, state dinners and other official ceremonies.

"Between 150 and 200 people will be auditioning for the 'President's Own' job," Garrett said in December. "In orchestral music, there's only one tuba player. It's probably easier to be an NFL quarterback."

Garrett is just one of many TJC graduates trying to fulfill a passion for music; and as the band and music departments grow, directors, former students and faculty are looking at ways to keep the alumni base strong.

Many college music majors go on to careers as professional musicians and music educators. For others, music might not have been their major, but being part of a collegiate music program served as a social and extra-curricular outlet.

Some band members even go on to become meteorologists.

Tylerite and former TJC percussionist Doc Deason is president of the TJC's band alumni organization, Apache Band Gold.

Deason, a Tyler meteorologist, real

estate agent and disc jockey, graduated from Lindale high school in 1990 and attended TJC from 1990-1993.

He is seeking former Apache Band members who want to reconnect with TJC's band legacy.

"The Band Gold will be a great way to reconnect a lot of folks with other people who were part of a very special part of their lives," Deason said. "That's really the key behind this – to further the legacy that's already been laid. I think we'll have a good response to it."

Deason said the organization is currently in its initial outreach phase and trying to make contact with former band members to create a database.

He was a member of the Apache Band drumline.



"Our band director, Gary Jordan, was influential in putting the drumline in more of an up-front position to create somewhat of a showstopper crew," he said.

Deason said the time he spent in the TJC band was one of the best of his life.

"Most everyone I meet who had an experience at TJC will look back on it as the best experience of their lives," he said. "Most people will want to strengthen that legacy through support groups. The Apache Band Gold is another way people can do that."

Garrett said his experience was similar – he began at a larger university but decided to change his major to music and come to TJC – an experience he said would be rare anywhere else.

"In the big picture, TJC is a relatively small school and an even smaller music program," he said. "Personally I had an opportunity. I was able to perform as a soloist in the wind ensemble. At larger schools there's just less opportunity."

Both Garrett and Deason attributed the band's recent success to its leadership: Tom Mensch, director of bands and professor of trombone; Heather Mensch, professor of jazz studies and low brass; Tom McGowan, professor of percussion studies; Adam Myers, professor of woodwinds; and Karman Trotter, colorguard and twirling instructor and band choreographer.



TJC band alum Clay Garrett is currently working on his doctorate at the University of North Texas. Clay credits much of his success and work ethic as a musician to TJC directors Tom and Heather Mensch.



The TJC Indoor Drumline has gained in popularity over the past few years, with consistently successful appearances in Winter Guard International competitions across the country.

"The Mensches deserve a lot of praise for what they do," Garrett said, citing Tom Mensch as the reason he changed his major to music. "I was really eager to learn and they were eager to teach. I could always show up and go into their offices."

Garrett was a finalist in the 2010 International Tuba and Euphonium Association's solo competition, and was the winner of the 2010 Leonard Falcone International Festival tuba artist solo competition.

Knowing the odds were slim, Garrett didn't make the U.S. Marine Band this time around; but he continues working on his doctorate at The University of North Texas, as well as teaching tuba as an adjunct professor at Tarleton State University in Stephenville.

Still, he credits the Mensches and his TJC band experience for giving him a firm foundation on his future.

Tom Mensch said, "It's an honor when a student has tasted success and references me as an influential person that helped them achieve that goal. I'm just grateful that God gives me an opportunity to see students that I have taught become successful in their chosen field."

The current Apache Band program is comprised of a 200-member marching band, two jazz bands, symphonic band, wind ensemble, concert band, Apache Punch drumline, competitive indoor drumline, brass choir, pep band and various other ensembles.


The TJC indoor drumline, under McGowan's direction, has consistently won Winter Guard International competitions across the country. In March, on the campus of Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky., TJC was named the WGI Mid-South Independent Open Class Champion. The group then competed and won the Texas Color Guard Circuit State Championships, upholding their state title in Percussion Independent World class.

"I see the TJC band future as very bright. You've got an incredible leadership core here," Deason said. "The band looks to be as strong as it's been in a couple of decades and I put the credit for that at the feet of its directors."

The job of sustaining the Apache Band's legacy lies not only with the directors but also with its alumni.

Deason said he and the Band Gold are trying to gauge the interest level of alumni, but said he knows there are many out there who would gladly join the organization.

"We hope to get a dialogue going with our band alumni and hope to get more interaction in the future," he said. "I feel confident that once people are made aware of the organization, they'll want to be a part of it. There's a lot of excitement from those who are already plugged in."

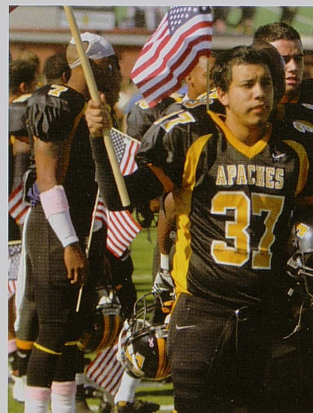
For more information on joining the TJC Apache Band Gold, go to: <http://www.tjc.edu/alumni/StayInvolved/BandGold.php> or email Tom Mensch at [tmen@tjc.edu](mailto:tmen@tjc.edu). 



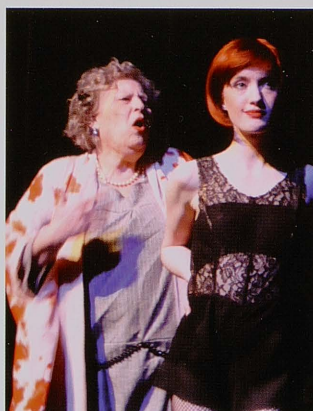
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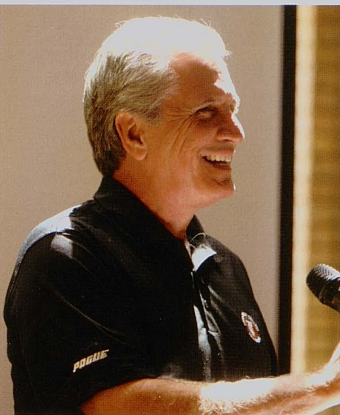




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**TJC FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT • SEPTEMBER 8, 2011 • HOLLYTREE COUNTRY CLUB**





# FOUNDATION NEWS

## 2011 HGR General Contractors Scholarship Golf Tournament most successful to date

By Becca Anderson

**Q:** What is 24 years old, has 264 legs and generated \$41,000 in TJC scholarships?

**A:** The 2011 Tyler Junior College Foundation Golf Tournament.

The HGR General Contractors Scholarship Golf Tournament benefitting the TJC Foundation, held Sept. 8 at Hollytree Country Club, raised more sponsorship dollars than ever in the 24 history of the event.

As a result, 41 students will receive a scholarship of \$1,000 during the 2012-13 academic year. One hundred and thirty-two players participated, and sponsors were involved at all levels of the program, including title and lunch sponsors, hat and shirt sponsors, hole sponsors and providers of other important aspects of the event. The successful tournament initiated Tyler Junior College's 85th anniversary, which celebrates over eight decades of providing a quality education, a vibrant student life and service to the community.

HGR General Contractors, the title sponsor of the tournament for the second year, continues to show its commitment to TJC students. HGR is a strong community partner for the College and worked extensively on the recent maintenance and infrastructure initiatives on the main campus.

The job of raising scholarship dollars is never done. More than half TJC's students require some form of financial assistance to make their dreams of higher education come true. Scholarships ease financial burdens, reward students who serve as goodwill ambassadors for the community through one of the College's extracurricular programs and help TJC recruit the best and brightest area students.

"This tournament is unique among golf events in this area," said advisory committee chair Paul Latta, a local dentist who received his associate's degree from TJC and is a Foundation



Tournament speaker and popular FOX4 weekend sports anchor Mike Doocy (left) visits with luncheon sponsors Peaches and Louis Owen. For more golf tournament photos, see page 13.

board member. Latta also serves as a member of the TJC School of Dental Hygiene Advisory Board. "All the proceeds go directly to student scholarships. Those receiving scholarships are required to help on the day of the golf tournament, and are introduced individually during the luncheon. I think it really gives the sponsors and participants a tangible look at where the proceeds are going. It always makes me feel good when I get a chance to talk to the scholarship recipients at the tournament and realize how appreciative they are. Many of the students are going back to TJC to acquire skills they know will help them in the workplace. I understand this; I'm in a second career myself."

A strong advisory committee is instrumental to the success of the tournament. Latta and the advisory committee continue to do an outstanding job of enhancing and positioning the tournament as a premier fundraising opportunity for the TJC Foundation and its scholarship program. Latta has been on the committee five years, and that depth of experience shows in continuity of success from year to year. When he joined the group, the tournament was ready for an upgrade.

"Before the revamping, the tournament primarily served as a public relations event for TJC," he said. "With the

reductions of state funding for colleges and universities and the increasing need for people to acquire specialized training to be competitive in the workplace, it was decided to increase the scope of the tournament to raise funds for scholarships. The committee was formed to help with organization, promotion and fundraising. The addition of a luncheon that features a well-known speaker has increased sponsorships and added another dimension to the tournament festivities."

The 2011 tournament speaker was popular FOX4 weeknight sports anchor Mike Doocy. Attendees enjoyed Doocy's sports stories and motivational message during the luncheon. Past speakers of his caliber have raised the profile of the tournament and made it a much-anticipated event in the Tyler area.

In addition to Latta, the advisory committee included: Loren Bennett (Eiche, Mapes and Company, Inc.), Clarke Hampe (Wilson, Robertson & Cornelius, PC), Mike Harrison (Gibson, Greer & Associates -Ameriprise Financial, Inc.), Claude Henry (Texas Bank and Trust), Darin Newhouse (Henry & Peters, PC), Scott Sawyer (Eiche, Mapes and Company, Inc.), Bruce Thomson (BancorpSouth) and Eleanor Stringer (community volunteer).



"It is essential that the tournament chairman lead the committee, but one secret to the success of the event has been the yearly addition of qualified and competent committee members as others rotate off the committee," Latta said. "We've been very blessed to have a number of people serve over the past few years who have great ideas, as well as a real passion for the mission of the tournament. Everyone truly enjoys serving on the committee and helping with the tournament—it's really much more fun than work!"

"The TJC Foundation staff does a tremendous job of implementing the desires of the committee to ensure everything related to the tournament is done in a first-class manner. The success of the event could not happen without their tireless efforts."

What's next for the tournament?

"The track we're on right now is a very positive one," Latta said. "I don't think we need to make any drastic changes in the near future. All the participants seem to have a great time. TJC staff members come out and help ensure the atmosphere is fun and light-hearted. I think the goal for the next few years should be to further spread the word about the tournament and its mission of increasing scholarships to benefit more TJC students. That, in turn, benefits the whole community."



Dr. Paul Latta, who has served as tournament chair for two years, speaks to the crowd during the luncheon.

The 2012 Foundation golf tournament will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the event and is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 6, 2012, at Hollytree Country Club.

For more information on the 2012 tournament, call 903-510-2249 or visit [www.tjc.edu/golftournament](http://www.tjc.edu/golftournament).

## Your Generosity Fulfills Promises

Tyler Junior College has fulfilled its three promises for 85 years! Each year, the TJC Foundation helps the College honor those promises by providing much-needed scholarships. With record enrollment pushing 12,000 and more than 50% of students requiring financial assistance, scholarships continue to be a top priority.

The 2011 HGR General Contractors Scholarship Golf Tournament benefitting the TJC Foundation set a record for sponsor participation. Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who supported the tournament.

Your generosity ensures that Tyler Junior College will fulfill its promises.

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# FOUNDATION NEWS

## Awards of Excellence Luncheon brings together scholarship donors & recipients



Jacob Jones, recipient of the E. Fred Herschbach Foreign Language Award, with (far left) Dr. John Hays, TJC foreign language professor/department chair; and Fred Herschbach, who named the award in honor of his father.



Cynthia Slater was the recipient of the Dale and Cathryn Cates Award for Excellence. From left: Dr. Betsy Ott, TJC biology professor; Pam Gregory, TJC biology professor; Slater; Cathryn Cates, TJC biology professor; and Dale Cates, husband of Cathryn Cates.



Laduanda Monique Hill receives the TJC Social Sciences Department Scholarship of Excellence award from Jan McCauley (left), TJC American history and government professor.



Rebecca Brown receives the TJC Anatomy and Physiology Faculty Scholarship Award from Dr. Betsy Ott (left), TJC biology professor.



Julio Olvera, receives the Raul and Caridad Hernandez Endowed Scholarship from Dr. Rodney Whetzel (left), TJC chemistry professor/department chair.



Cynthia Green receives the Austin P. Turner Award for Excellence. From left: Deborah Welch, TJC business management professor/department chair; Dr. Rita Bryant Turner, who established the award in honor of her late husband; Green; and Mary Scarborough, TJC business professor.



Christina Kramer receives the Katie Bryant Endowed Award for Excellence from Dr. Rita Bryant Turner (left), who established the award in honor of her daughter.



Annetta Goodwin receives the Watson W. Wise Incentive Award from Mitch Andrews (left), TJC director of principal gifts.



# FOUNDATION NEWS

## Russell named vice chair of national advisory committee on community colleges



Dr. Kim Russell, Tyler Junior College vice president for advancement and external affairs, has been appointed vice chair of the Center for Community College Advancement's Advisory

Committee, joining 12 other community college leaders from throughout the country to help identify learning opportunities and professional development needs for community

college advancement professionals.

The Center for Community College Advancement is operated by CASE (the Council for Advancement and Support of Education), one of the world's largest nonprofit educational associations serving more than 3,400 colleges and universities.

"CASE is an outstanding organization that has helped shape the advancement profession for independent schools, colleges and universities worldwide," said Dr. Russell, who also serves as executive director of the Tyler Junior College Foundation. "I am honored to be a part of the newly created Center

for Community College Advancement Advisory Committee and am thrilled to represent Tyler Junior College.

"Today, community colleges educate more than half of all students enrolled in higher education in the U.S., but they received less than 2 percent of the \$30 billion donated to colleges and universities in 2011."

The CASE Center for Community College Advancement provides training and resources to help community colleges build and sustain effective fundraising, alumni relations and communications and marketing programs.

## AT&T gift supports programming for science center

Students from all over East Texas will be able to reach for the stars and maybe even visit them someday, thanks to a grant from the AT&T Foundation to the Center for Earth & Space Science Education at Tyler Junior College.

The \$25,000 gift supports educational programming and headline shows at the center, which reopened in September following a massive renovation and technology upgrade.

Candice Gast, AT&T director of external affairs for Northeast Texas, was encouraged to seek the gift from AT&T by State Sen. Kevin Eltife.

Recent studies have shown that many students have gravitated away from science and engineering careers and that the success of the country's science, technology, engineering and mathematics education programs rests with finding new and innovative ways to prepare and inspire today's students.

"For many East Texas schoolchildren, the TJC science center is their first exposure to science and space exploration; and, no doubt, many of them are inspired by that experience," Eltife said. "The AT&T Foundation has made an investment not only in our students, but in our future scientists and explorers."



From left: Dr. Mike Metke, TJC president; Candice Gast, AT&T director of external affairs for Northeast Texas; Barbara Bass, mayor of Tyler; Dr. Tom Hooten, director of the science center; Dr. Kim Russell, TJC vice president for advancement and external affairs; and Dr. Randy Reid, Tyler ISD superintendent.

The AT&T Foundation was the presenting underwriter for two of the science center's headline shows, "Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity," which was shown February through April, and "Tales of the Maya Skies," which is scheduled to run September through December.

Gast said, "We are happy to support Tyler Junior College's Center for Earth & Space Science Education. The importance of education – particularly science education – is a main priority for AT&T. With elected leaders such as Senator Eltife working in Austin to pave the way for education, AT&T is happy to do our part to invest in Texas' future generations both in Tyler and around the State of Texas."

## Herb and Melvina Buie create endowment for nursing students

Tyler residents Herb and Melvina Buie have established a scholarship endowment that will benefit TJC nursing students for years to come.

The Herb C. and Melvina R. Buie Scholarship Endowment will provide one scholarship each year for a full-time nursing major. Their investment will help fund tuition, fees and books for a full-time student pursuing an associate's degree in nursing.

As TJC continues its efforts to raise funds for a new nursing and health sciences building, scholarship funds for the college's ever-growing nursing program are very important.

The Buie Scholarship Endowment represents a significant, long-lasting commitment and interest in higher education, enabling generations of students to attain their dream of a health care career.

The Buies have been ardent supporters of TJC since 1999 through their membership in the TJC President's Circle. In addition to this newly established endowed scholarship, they continue to provide student support through the Herb and Melvina Buie Promises to Keep Annual Scholarship.

For information on these and other TJC scholarships, please go to [www.tjc.edu/scholarships](http://www.tjc.edu/scholarships).





# *Universal appeal*

*Space science education center  
back in service after major upgrades*

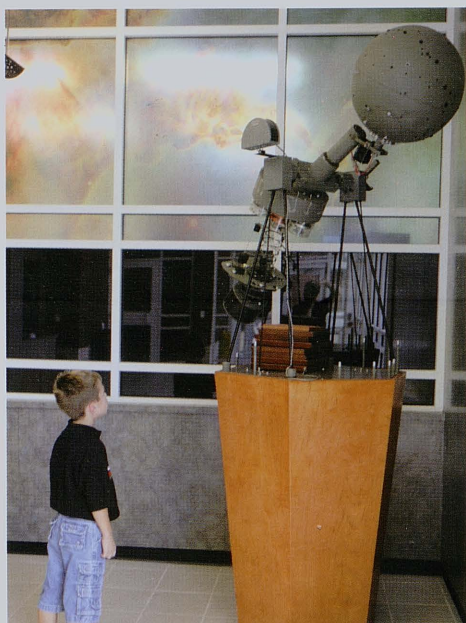
*By Elise Mullinix  
Assistant Director of Marketing & Public Affairs*

**Promise No. 3: Community Service**



If you attended East Texas schools between 1963 and 2010, your first real exposure to space and science likely came during a field trip to TJC's Hudnall Planetarium.

Upon exiting the school bus with your classmates and walking in an orderly fashion down the sidewalk and into the building, you took a seat inside the dimly lit planetarium, the lights went down, and you saw ... a bunch of dots projected on the ceiling.



For more than four decades, the Spitz A3P star projector educated generations of visitors to the Hudnall Planetarium. Today, the retired projector holds a place of honor in the lobby of the new science center.

Those dots were projected by a Spitz A3P, which was a state-of-the-art star projector when it was made in 1963.

For 47 years, the A3P was a good little soldier, educating thousands of schoolchildren along the way and pausing for the occasional replacement part or bulb; but as technology advanced, the lure of the planetarium seemed to wane.

"With the old system, it was hard to impress students who could see better quality graphics on their mobile phones," said Dr. Tom Hooten, who has been the planetarium director since 2003. "What they saw when they came here were static, slide images in a round room with everyone facing toward the center projector.

Sometimes they would have to crane their necks to see all parts of the dome, sometimes the center projector blocked the view, there was an old sound system, and there were wrinkles in the dome."

Not what you'd call a stellar experience, by today's standards.

Well, that was then.

In 2010, the planetarium was closed and what ensued was a massive, yearlong expansion and reconstruction that doubled the size of the building, and added an 85-seat theater equipped with a 40-foot, tilted dome and Digistar 4, which offers the latest in digital projection technology.

On Sept. 17, 2011, the facility reopened as the Center for Earth & Space Science Education at Tyler Junior College.

The grand opening was sponsored by Eubanks Harris Roberts Craig Architects Inc., who designed the center.

With state-of-the-art facilities and expanded programming, the science center has begun inspiring and entertaining a new generation of East Texans, making it a premier field-trip destination for area schools as well as an educational attraction for TJC and the community.



Dr. Tom Hooten, director of the Center for Earth & Space Science Education, explains how to tell time on the Niblack Family sundial located in one of the center's educational, outdoor courtyards.

*Continued on page 38*

## A Welcome Gift

By Becca Anderson



At the opening of the Gollob Welcome Center, from left: Aaron Michael Owens; LaVerne and Michael Gollob; and Teresa and Scott Butcher.

First impressions matter.

A generous gift to name the LaVerne and Michael Gollob Welcome Center helped fund construction of the new Center for Earth & Space Science Education at Tyler Junior College and build an endowment to support programming.

The Gollob Welcome Center comprises the science center's lobby, reception and ticketing area. Their gift comes as one in a long series of generous donations to civic and community causes. LaVerne, a TJC Foundation board member, is past president of the Texas Association of Symphony Orchestras and active in the Women's Symphony League of Tyler. Michael, a Certified Public Accountant since 1959, served as president of Gollob, Morgan and Petty from its establishment in 1982 until his retirement in 2005. He attended TJC in the 1950s and has a long resume of active support of various charitable, accounting-related and educational institutions and organizations.

Something special captured the Gollobs' imagination about the Center for Earth and Space Science Education.

*Continued on page 39*



# For Mercy's sake

*Hospital ship brings student out of Africa to TJC*

*By Elise Mullinix*

*Assistant Director of Marketing & Public Affairs*





Until a year ago, Stephen Tetteh had scarcely heard of Tyler Junior College, much less considered going to school here.

Tetteh, a 24-year-old native of Asesewa Ghana, West Africa, spent three years on the Mercy Ships vessel Africa Mercy, pitching in wherever he was needed – working in the kitchen, serving as a drummer on the worship team and sterilizing surgical instruments.

It was the experience near the surgeries that captured his attention and made him set his sights on the future.

“In the sterilizing room, we would prepare the instruments for surgery, then after surgery we would process and sterilize them for the next procedure,” he said. “I saw many, many surgeries and the ways people’s lives were changed because of them.”

The Africa Mercy isn’t just a floating hospital; she’s a floating volunteer hospital that serves the world’s poorest of the poor. The patients haven’t heard of Blue Cross or HMOs. They come from a country where clean water is rare and access to medical care is practically nonexistent.

Mercy Ships began in 1978 with a mission to follow the model of Jesus by bringing hope and healing to the world’s forgotten poor; and founders Don and Deyon Stephens sought to find a way to bring first-world medical care to third-world countries. The



The Africa Mercy operating room is a busy place, with surgeries for every imaginable ailment. Here, surgeons work to correct a child’s bow leg.



Reading to the local children was one of Ann Brookshire’s favorite “jobs” during her two-week mission on the Africa Mercy.

Africa Mercy, Mercy Ships’ fourth and largest vessel to date, is a purpose-built hospital with six state-of-the-art operating rooms, intensive care and ward bed space for up to 78 patients.

When the ship docks in its intended location, which can be anywhere from Togo to Sierra Leone to Ghana to the Canary Islands, thousands of villagers line up and wait hours for screenings, then they are given a date to report back to the ship for treatment.

While the treatments are taking place on the ship, medical and non-medical teams provide land-based services. Volunteer personnel conduct eye clinics, providing screenings, treatment and eyeglasses to those in need.

A dental team is also dispatched to attend to the hundreds of patients who report daily to the off-ship dental clinic. Dental hygienists visit schools to distribute toothbrushes and educate children on the importance of healthy teeth.

In late 2011, TJC trustees Ann Brookshire and Peggy Wagstaff Smith did a two-week volunteer stint in Sierra Leone with a group from Tyler’s Marvin United Methodist Church.

“It is absolutely amazing what Mercy Ships does,” Brookshire said. “Some of the children had such serious medical issues, some had bow legs that looked like Valentine hearts, and so many other problems. These children would literally be outcasts in their village

were they not operated on to correct their medical problems.”

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**“I would encourage anyone who has an opportunity to go and experience this to do it. It definitely puts a lot of the world in perspective.”**

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Brookshire and Smith assisted with services such as: providing public health talks, assembling hymnals, sanitizing a hospital ward, cleaning closets, reading books on tape for blind children, reading to children and adults (many of whom had never seen a book before), and conducting a mini-vacation Bible school for a polio home and a gathering of 250 children in the slums.

Smith, who is the daughter of the late, legendary TJC coach, Floyd Wagstaff, also conducted a physical education class.

“We basically did whatever we could do to be helpful,” Smith said. “I am grateful for this experience and for the opportunity we were given to see and learn. I would encourage anyone who has an opportunity to go and experience this to do it. It definitely puts a lot of the world in perspective.”

As a worker on the ship, Stephen Tetteh met countless volunteers just like Ann Brookshire and Peggy Smith.

He dreamt of going to college and becoming a doctor; and, since Mercy Ships





The 499-foot, 16,572-ton Africa Mercy is the world's largest charity hospital ship. The purpose-built hospital includes six state-of-the-art operating rooms, intensive care and ward bed space for up to 78 patients. The ship has a berth capacity for 484. Volunteer crew from more than 30 nations serve onboard.

is headquartered in Garden Valley near Lindale, he became curious about the area and spent some time researching colleges in East Texas.

"I liked the idea of going to school here, not only because of its proximity to Mercy Ships, but because of its affordability and because this is a strong medical community," he said.

Destiny stepped in about a year ago, when he met a ship volunteer who happened to live in Tyler, Texas, and offered to cover his tuition and living expenses to help him fulfill his dream.

Today, Tetteh is a TJC freshman pre-med major. After TJC, he plans to pursue medical school, preferably Baylor; and his ultimate goal is to help his people by becoming a Mercy Ships surgeon.

So far, his experiences with TJC and living in Texas have been positive.

"I like Texas very much," he said. "There are two seasons in Africa: dry and rainy. Of course I have a much heavier coat here; but I find the weather conditions here are not so different from Africa."

His studies are also going well.


"In Africa, we would just read about what we were studying and it did not have the practical aspect," he said. "Classes in the USA take a more hands-on approach, which I feel

is better training for what I am trying to do. The professors here have always been very helpful."

Tetteh has no plans to return to West Africa until his studies are finished.

"I have family back home, my mom and three siblings," he said. "I talk to them on the telephone once a month. There is no email and no Skype.

"I am completely focused on my studies. This is why I am here. I need to finish medicine and become what I want to become before I go back."

For more information on Mercy Ships, or to volunteer, please visit [www.mercyships.org](http://www.mercyships.org). 



Freetown, the capital and largest city in Sierra Leone in West Africa, has a population of about a million.



# ONCAMPUS

## Schaefer named director of TJC Apache Belles

For the first time in almost three decades, the Tyler Junior College Apache Belles have a new leader.

Jasilyn Schaefer, who was an Apache Belle from 1996-98, succeeds her mentor Ruth Flynn, who served as Apache Belles director from 1984 until her retirement in 2011.

On Feb. 8, TJC President Dr. Mike Metke and TJC Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Johnny Moore made the official announcement to the Apache Belles in their dance studio.

When Flynn announced her plans to retire last year after 27 years of service, Schaefer was tapped to serve as interim director while a search was conducted for a permanent replacement.

"It was an extensive search," Dr. Metke said. "Many people were interviewed and many were asked their advice on who should lead the Apache Belles. It always, overwhelmingly, came back to Jasilyn.

"The Apache Belles have a long, proud tradition at Tyler Junior College, and I have no doubt that Jasilyn Schaefer is the right choice, the only choice, for this position."

Dr. Moore said, "The Apache Belles not only add to that uniqueness that sets TJC

apart from other institutions, they are the trademark and public face of the College.

"This past year, I've worked very closely with Jasilyn and I now have a greater appreciation for those high kicks not only because I cannot do them, but also knowledge of the work that goes into every halftime show, community performance and parade appearance.

"We understand what a valuable asset we have in Jasilyn and the Apache Belles and have seen first-hand the types of alumni this group produces. I'm confident that as director, Jasilyn will continue the Belles tradition for many years to come."

Schaefer holds an associate's degree in fine arts (dance) from TJC, as well as bachelor's and master's degrees from The University of Texas at Tyler. She is a former graduate assistant and administrative assistant of the Apache Belles and a former director of the Texas Tech Gunfire Kickline.

Schaefer said, "Director of the Apache Belles is so much more than a title or a job. It is my passion. I believe completely in what the Apache Belle experience gives each young lady who lives it, and I intend with every fiber of my being to continue to preserve and build upon the



*Newly named Apache Belles director Jasilyn Schaefer succeeds her mentor Ruth Flynn, who retired last year after 27 years with the program.*

foundation that has been established since 1947.

"I wake up each morning and get to touch lives, lead young women, and preserve the traditions of a Tyler legacy directing the internationally famous Tyler Junior College Apache Belles. I am truly blessed."

About succeeding her mentor, Schaefer said, "How can anyone ever fill the boots of Ruth Flynn? Directing this team for 27 years is an astounding accomplishment. I only pray that I lead with the wisdom and grace that she has exuded during her time at the helm of the Apache Belle program."

The Apache Belles had a busy 2011-12 holiday season, appearing in the 62nd Annual Houston Holiday Parade on Thanksgiving Day, then performing New Year's Day in the NFL game between the Miami Dolphins and the New York Jets and heading to Orlando to be featured performers in the Capital One Bowl halftime show on Jan. 2.

For more information on the TJC Apache Belles, go to [apachebelles.com](http://apachebelles.com) or find them on Facebook at [facebook.com/apachebelles](http://facebook.com/apachebelles).



*The TJC Apache Belles took their Texas flair to Florida, where they performed at the New Year's Day NFL game between the Miami Dolphins and the New York Jets, then the Capital One Bowl halftime show in Orlando on Jan. 2.*



# ONCAMPUS

## TJC releases mobile app for iPhone, Android users

Need to know the tip-off time for the next TJC Apaches basketball game or find the library? There's an app for that and much more.

Tyler Junior College has joined the mobile application universe and released a free downloadable app for iPhone, iPad, iPod touch and Android users.

The app currently features quick-reference information for:

Maps – Campus maps for the TJC main campus and West

Campus, as well as the Jacksonville, Lindale and Rusk centers. The maps are searchable for specific buildings and campus locations.

Contacts – The alphabetical listing allows a quick scan of campus offices, then one touch to place a call or email.

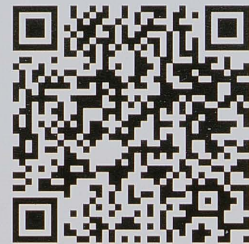
Events – View the campus events calendar and details.

Social networks – Direct links to official TJC social networking sites, including Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Flickr and YouTube.

Athletics – See news, schedules, scores and rosters for all TJC athletic teams.

Student handbook – Access important student information in the TJC Student Handbook.

To download the app, mobile users can go to their app store and search for “TJC mobile app” or scan the QR code:



## TJC Fire Academy graduates



Members of the first class of cadets of the TJC Fire Academy (from left) are: Alex Seeton, Golden; Adam Pruitt, Athens; Nathan Ledkins, Hawkins; Philip Johnson, Tyler; Ryan Gaar, Canton; Cody Eastep, Crandall; and Boot Brantley, Eustace.

## New TJC Fire Academy up and running

The Tyler Junior College Fire Academy has graduated its first two classes of cadets.

Graduation was held Dec. 20, 2011, for the academy's first class of cadets, which included: Boot Brantley, Eustace; Cody Eastep, Crandall; Ryan Gaar, Canton; Phillip Johnson, Tyler; Nathan Ledkins, Hawkins; Adam Pruitt, Athens; William Reneau, Henderson; and Alex Seeton, Golden.

The academy's second cadet class graduated on April 13. Graduates were:

Justin Duke, Canton; Lucas Gipson, Chapel Hill; Jeremy Heddin, Canton; Cameron Lovette, Canton; Cody Park, Canton; and Garrett Rose, Canton.

TJC Fire Academy graduates receive certification as Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Hazmat Awareness and Hazmat Operations and qualify for national accreditation by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

Admission to the TJC Fire Academy is based upon a highly competitive process. Preference will be given to an applicant's

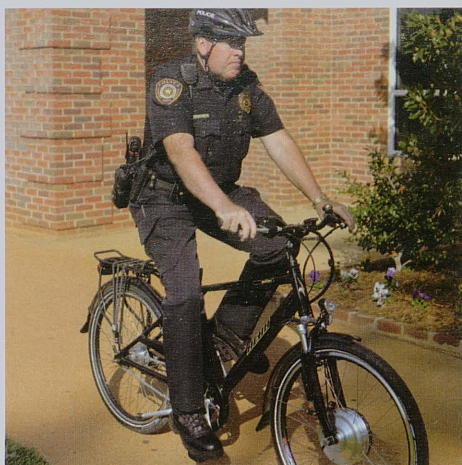
level of education, experience and their affiliation with a volunteer fire department or rescue unit. The academy is a non-credit continuing education program. Tyler Junior College will award 15 semester credit hours upon successful completion of the program and passing the state exam.

For more information on the TJC Fire Academy, including how to apply, go to [www.tjc.edu/fireacademy](http://www.tjc.edu/fireacademy) or call 903-510-2404.



# ONCAMPUS

## College adds high-tech bike to campus safety fleet



TJC Campus Safety Chief Randy Melton takes a spin on the College's newest high-tech bicycle, the Electro Glide 500 by Hebb E-Bikes. The bike operates by standard pedaling but supplements human strength with a battery and motor.

The Tyler Junior College campus safety office has added another high-tech bicycle to its fleet, decreasing the department's carbon footprint while giving officers the ability to patrol virtually anywhere, any time.

The new Electro Glide 500 from Hebb E-Bikes operates by standard pedaling power, but supplements human strength with a lithium polymer battery-powered, planetary-gear hub motor.

The department has purchased one bike and may add more in the future. TJC Campus Safety Chief Randy Melton has been riding the bike, and used it on trips to test the safety and route characteristics for the College's Tour for the Cure 8-kilometer bike ride, held on Oct. 22.

"I rode the 8K route several times, from Mike Carter Field to the TJC West campus and back. It is easy to ride and inexpensive to operate," he said.

Melton said a police light and siren were added to the bike.

The purchase is the latest in civility efforts at TJC aimed at increasing campus safety visibility and access while reducing campus crime and conduct violations.

The bike was purchased directly from Hebb E-Bikes founder and owner, Bill Hebb, of Tyler. This particular model sells at a retail cost of \$2,500.

## 'U-Tip' allows sources to remain anonymous

Have a tip about suspicious activity on a Tyler Junior College campus or satellite facility but want to remain anonymous? The College has launched a new system that will accept your information without naming you as the source.

As a result of its contract with e2Campus, TJC now offers "U-Tip," a communication service that can provide mobile text messages directly to Campus Safety in an anonymous fashion.

"This service will allow students, employees and even visitors to our campuses and satellite facilities to report suspicious activity or provide crime tips without their identity being exposed," said Dr. Johnny Moore, TJC vice president of student affairs.

Individuals who wish to make a report or "tip" may do so by sending a text message to 79516, using the keyword of "tjctip."

The service was installed and tested during the Fall 2011 semester, Dr. Moore said.

## 50-Gallon Challenge



TJC helped Tyler's Carter BloodCare reach its largest goal in a single blood drive by issuing the 50-Gallon Challenge. During the last week of March, donors by the hundreds filed into the Rogers Student Center Apache Rooms and rolled up their sleeves for the cause. TJC Nursing Professor Karen Cooper gave the 400th pint, making the 50 gallons a reality. In the final tally, 52.75 gallons were donated to Carter BloodCare. Since a single pint of blood can save up to three lives, the drive could potentially impact more than 1200 lives.



# ALUMNI NEWS

## MESSAGE FROM 2011-12 ALUMNI PRESIDENT



It is an honor to serve as the president of the Tyler Junior College Alumni Association during our 85th anniversary. Since 1926, Tyler Junior College has provided educational excellence. Each semester, for the past several years, enrollment has reached all-time highs with a current enrollment of almost 12,000 students.

The mission of the TJC Alumni Association is to support the College's many programs, promote its numerous qualities in our community, assist in the recruitment of students to our campus, and provide scholarships for TJC students.

Each year, the TJC Alumni Association provides scholarships to well-deserving applicants who are sincerely appreciative. As our enrollment continues to increase, so does the need for financial assistance. Your membership dues for the TJC Alumni Association make these scholarships possible.

If you are currently not a member (all former students are welcome), I encourage you to join us this year and help celebrate 85 years of excellence, take advantage of the great benefits membership offers, and help make a difference for our future TJC alumni!

Thank you for your support,

Jon Jacobs, Class of 1987  
President, TJC Alumni Association

## Former secretary to TJC presidents and trustees dies

Maxene Robinson, 72, of Quitman, passed away Oct. 12, 2011. A 1959 graduate of Tyler Junior College, she worked for the College in a variety of positions for 38 years. She retired as executive secretary to the president and board of trustees in 1996. To honor her many years



Maxene Robinson

of service, the Maxene Robinson Presidential Scholarship was established. She and her sister, Kay, loved to attend TJC sporting events and continued to support the Apache athletic teams for many years. Maxene served on the TJC Alumni Association Board of Directors and Advisory Board for more than 10 years and was the recipient of the 2000 Apache Spirit Award for her devotion to Tyler Junior College and its students.

## 2011-12 Alumni Association Officers, Board Members and Advisory Board



**Officers:** Jon Jacobs, president; Carol Beggs, president-elect; and Doc Deason, secretary, and past president, Gay Smith.

**Board Members:** Stephanie Arriola, Bryan Brady, Carleta Cates, Amy Cunningham, Wanda Ealey, Diane Hawkins, Amy McCullough, Julie Mettlen, Danny Mogle, Robert Reed, Mike Richardson, Justin Smith, Molly Smith, Joey Stanger, Gene Staples and Roy Sulser.

**Advisory Board Members:** Eunice Chancellor, Nancy Lunceford, Shirley Mallory, Emma Lou Prater, and Coach Herb Richardson.

**Young Alumni Advisory Chair:** Sara Scarborough.

**Ex-officio members:** Betty Briggs, Alumni Director/Treasurer; and Dr. Kim Russell, Vice President of Advancement and External Affairs.



# ALUMNI NEWS

## Alumni association welcomes 8 new board members



**Bryan Brady '92:** (Soccer) Bryan is a graduate of Beaumont West Brook High School and attended TJC from 1990-1992. While at TJC, he played on the soccer team and received an associate's degree in Marketing. After TJC, he attended Lee University in

Tennessee on a soccer scholarship. He returned to Tyler in 1994 and received a BA from the University of Texas at Tyler. He is married to TJC alum Cindy Brady, who was a member of the volleyball team. They have two wonderful children, Brennen, age 12, and Braden, age 9. Since 1994, he has been employed at NuTech Inc., where he is vice president. He organized TJC's first Men's Soccer Reunion in 2011.



**Carleta Cates '71:** (Apache Belles/Harmony & Understanding) Starting as a music major, she later changed her major to elementary education and graduated from East Texas Baptist College in 1974. While at TJC, she was an Apache Belle, a member of the very first Harmony &

Understanding, and played Annie Oakley in "Annie Get Your Gun" in the spring musical. She retired in 2004 after 27 years of teaching music. Carleta married TJC alum David Cates '71 and they have two grown sons: Kyle, who played soccer at TJC, recently graduated from UT Tyler, and Carl, a Baylor graduate. Carleta helped organize Harmony & Understanding's 40+ anniversary reunion held in November 2011.



**Wanda Bowie Ealey '74:** (Apache Belles) Wanda is a Whitehouse High School graduate. After graduating from TJC with an associate's degree, she received a BBA in accounting from Baylor. She says some of

her happiest memories are from the Apache Belles, football and basketball games, socializing in the TeePee and even going to class! She is a member of the TJC Brothers & Sisters Reunion Committee and participates in Belle Gold homecoming activities. She has been employed at the Texas Department of Transportation for more than 30 years in various capacities, from finance to her current position of traffic safety specialist. Wanda has one son, Ryan, also a TJC alumnus.



**Julie Mettlen '78 RDH, BS, MS:** (Dental Hygiene) Julie graduated in the Top Ten of her class at Diboll High School. She moved to Tyler in 1976 and graduated cum laude with her associate's degree in dental hygiene in

1978. She earned BS and MS degrees in health professions from UT Tyler. A TJC dental hygiene professor for more than 30 years, Julie has served on numerous dental hygiene associations and committees, often in leadership roles. She has been a BSA adult leader with Boy Scout Troop 335 for the past eight years. Julie is married and the mother of two sons who will graduate from Robert E. Lee High School in June.



**Danny Mogle '82:** (Band) Danny is a graduate of Whitehouse High School and attended TJC from 1980-1982, majoring in journalism. He was an editor of the student newspaper, played baritone in the Apache Band and served

on the student body president's advisory council. Following TJC, he obtained his bachelor's degree in journalism from The University of Texas at Austin and his master's from UT Tyler. He currently serves as managing editor at the Tyler Morning Telegraph and also teaches journalism as an adjunct professor at TJC. He is married to Melanie (Dingler) Mogle and they have twin sons, Jacob and Alex, who are seniors at Robert E. Lee High School.



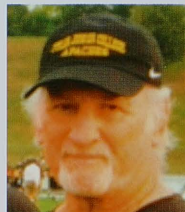
**Mike Richardson '74:** (Basketball) A Whitehouse High School graduate, he earned an associate's degree with a major in health/physical education and minor in English. After TJC, he attended Stephen F. Austin State University,

where he earned his master's degree in education. While at SFA, he lettered two years in both basketball & track. He earned his Administrative Certification from Texas A&M Commerce in 2008 and is assistant principal at Bullard High School. From 1978-81, he was TJC director of intramural sports, teacher and assistant boys' basketball coach. Mike has three grown children: Travis, Shane and Megan.



**Joey Stanger '74:** (Surveying) Joey is president and founder of Stanger Surveying Company, a professional land surveying company with a home office in Tyler and branch offices in

Canton and Fairfield. The company has more than 100 employees including 11 registered professional land surveyors and 27 field crews. He belongs to many professional organizations and has won numerous awards. He hires about 10 to 15 TJC surveying student interns every semester and formed SEFT—Surveying Education Foundation of Texas, which awards scholarships to TJC students. He is also a former TJC adjunct professor. Joey says everything he has he owes to TJC.



**Gene Staples '60:** (Football, National Championship team) A graduate of Lindale High School, he always dreamed of playing for Coach Wagstaff; however, weighing 150 pounds out of high school, he joined the

Marines the day after graduation with one goal in mind, to gain weight. After his service, Wagstaff gave him a scholarship. Now retired, he and wife Mary have been married for more than 40 years and live in the Lindale area. They have three grown children. Gene was inducted into the TJC Sports Circle of Honor in March. In 2010, he helped organize his championship football team's 50th reunion.

**Special thanks to former TJC Alumni Board members Joe Carlyle, John Chance, Christy Evans and Nancy Stewart, who served two, three-year terms and rotated off the board last year.**

Do you receive our monthly Blast From the Past alumni email? If not, please email TJC Alumni Director Betty Briggs at [bbri@tjc.edu](mailto:bbri@tjc.edu) to add your name to our list. It's a great way to stay up-to-date on all the latest alumni and TJC news! And don't forget to check out our website: [www.tjc.edu/alumni](http://www.tjc.edu/alumni).



# ALUMNI NEWS



TJC's 2011 Alumni Award Winners, from left, are: Mary Jane McNamara, Special Recognition Award; TJC President Dr. Michael Metke; Shirley McCorkle Mallory, The Apache Spirit Award; June Walling Murphy, Distinguished Alumna Award; and James I. and Margaret Perkins, The Black and Gold Award.

## Five honored at 2011 Alumni Awards Dinner during TJC Homecoming Weekend

As always, TJC alumni celebrated 2011 Homecoming Weekend in grand fashion.

On Friday, Oct. 28, the TJC Alumni Association honored five outstanding individuals for their contributions to society, lives' work and/or education at the 2011 Alumni Awards Dinner.

Mitch Andrews served as master of ceremonies, the TJC Jazz Band provided entertainment, and Dr. Cheryl Rogers and several Harmony & Understanding alumni led in singing the TJC alma mater.

The Distinguished Alumna Award was presented to June Walling Murphy, Class of '54. The Distinguished Alumni Award is the most prestigious award given by the TJC Alumni Association and recognizes distinguished professional achievements and distinctive contributions to society.

The Black and Gold Award was presented to Margaret and James I. Perkins.

The Black and Gold Alumni Award recognizes outstanding devotion to TJC by individuals who are not necessarily former students but who volunteer their time and resources to promote the College's mission and goals.

The Apache Spirit Award was presented to former Apache Belle Shirley McCorkle Mallory, Class of '52.

The Apache Spirit Award recognizes a person or group who has shown spirit and motivation through their contribution of time and energy to a program or activity which measurably benefits the College.

The Special Recognition Award was presented to Mary Jane McNamara, Class of '42.

The Special Recognition Alumni Award recognizes an individual for outstanding professional achievements, contributions to society, and/or service to their community.

Nancy Duckett Lunceford was crowned this year's Alumni Homecoming Apache Princess.

Saturday began with the Brothers and Sisters reunion brunch, then it was off to Trinity Mother Frances Rose Stadium for the big game against Kilgore College. Before kickoff, almost 300 alumni and friends enjoyed the barbecue tailgate party with local DJ and Apache Punch alum Doc Deason playing golden oldies.

Next, the Apache Belles, Apache Band and their alumni began their traditional,

pre-game rim walk; then the homecoming queen, her court and Apache Princess Nancy Lunceford were announced. The Apache football team had the crowd on the edge of their seats as they came from behind to beat Kilgore in the last minutes with a score of 42-35, clinching a final playoff berth in the Southwest Conference. That evening, alumni members enjoyed TJC's musical "Godspell," followed by a reception for Las Mascaras alumni, professors and the cast.

To nominate a former student for consideration for future alumni awards, please contact TJC Alumni Director Betty Briggs at 903-510-2371 or [bbri@tjc.edu](mailto:bbri@tjc.edu).

For more alumni photos, go to [www.tjc.edu/alumni/StayInvolved/Homecoming.php](http://www.tjc.edu/alumni/StayInvolved/Homecoming.php).

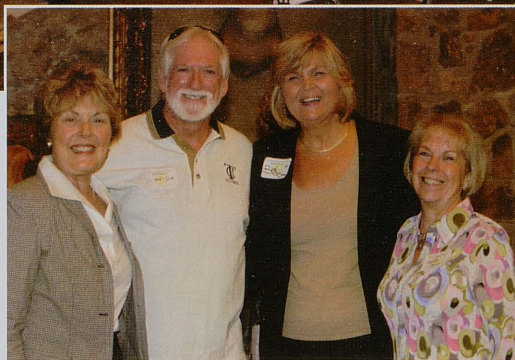


Alumni Apache Princess  
Nancy Duckett Lunceford



# ALUMNI NEWS

## Tyler Area Alumni Members' Reception



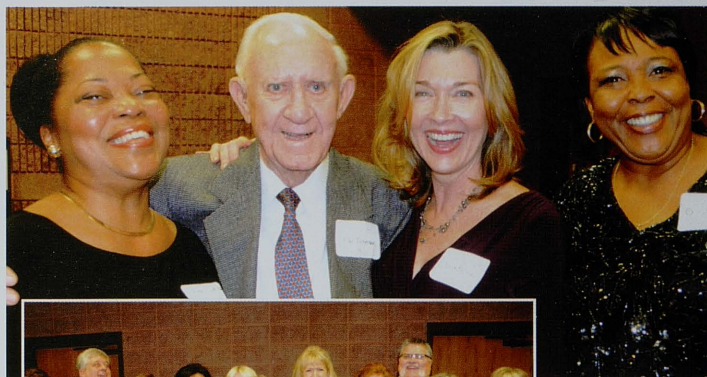
Top: Tyler area alumni members gathered to visit, share memories and hear all the latest TJC news at their annual reception at Coyote Sam's in April.

Bottom: Donna Metke, Dr. James A. Smith, Betty Briggs and Charlotte George.

To see more photos from the Tyler area event, go to:

[www.tylerjuniorcollege.smugmug.com/Advancement/Coyote-Sams-Alumni-Event-2012](http://www.tylerjuniorcollege.smugmug.com/Advancement/Coyote-Sams-Alumni-Event-2012)

## Harmony & Understanding 40+ Reunion



Top: Former Harmony & Understanding Director J. W. Johnson with former members Debbie Kirkland-Waffer (far left), Donna Bullock and Esther E. Broughton-Milton at their Nov. 19 reunion celebrating the group's 40+ years of entertaining.

Bottom: 1971-73 Harmony & Understanding members pause for a group shot during reunion festivities.

To see more photos from the Harmony & Understanding reunion, go to:

[www.tylerjuniorcollege.smugmug.com/Music/Harmony/](http://www.tylerjuniorcollege.smugmug.com/Music/Harmony/)

## 13th, 14th & 15th Apache Belle lines plan 50th reunion for Homecoming 2012

This year the 1960-62 Apache Belles will celebrate their 50th reunion during Homecoming 2012 on October 13. Reunion coordinator Sara Turner Miller invites the 13th, 14th and 15th lines to join them during Homecoming 2012 to reunite, share memories and celebrate old friendships.

"We were the Junior Rose Bowl group, our freshman year! We also traveled weekends to perform for the Houston Oilers and Dallas Cowboys many, many times," Mrs. Miller said.

"I think we were considered the official halftime entertainment for the Cowboys at least my freshman year and perhaps both years. Mrs. Mildred Stringer was our director and Mr. Al Gilliam was our choreographer."

This will be their big reunion and they are hoping for a huge turnout.

If you are from these lines, please contact the TJC Alumni Office at 903-510-2371 or [bbri@tjc.edu](mailto:bbri@tjc.edu) to make sure you are included in all the fun!



Apache Belles from the 1960-62 lines and lifelong friends to this day, from left, are: Sara Turner Miller, Mary Payne Lowe, Dee Hernandez Darwin, Glenda Carter Meyers, and Shirlee Nesbitt Gandy.



## 2011-2012 Alumni Scholarship Recipients



A "Welcome to TJC" dinner was held Sept. 1 for the TJC Alumni Association's STARs (Student To Alumni Representative) scholarship recipients and their parents. From left: Katie Weekley, Caitlin Foster, Sawyer Wylie, Amye Scarborough, Charlie Hensarling, Maddie Wallace, Kelly Knapp, David Fox, Keldan McKinnie, Nathaniel Muller, Kassi Cox and Katie Surratt. Not pictured is Shelby Carter.

# CLASSNOTES

★ Denotes Annual Member

✪ Denotes Lifetime Member

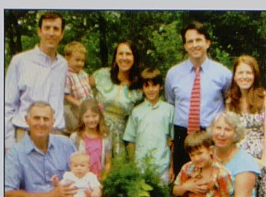
1960



✪ **Dave Ward**, longtime Houston ABC news anchor, was honored in November at the Lone Star Emmy Awards for a lifetime of achievement in broadcast journalism.

Dave was inducted into the Lone Star Emmy Chapter's Silver Circle, which recognizes people with more than 25 year of experience in television. Dave has been a member of the KTRK news team for 45 years and has spent 43 of those years as the main anchor on Eyewitness News. Over those years he has covered everything from presidents to the final shuttle launch. While attending TJC, Dave was a member of "Pinkie" Fowler's Apache Band and got his first broadcasting job at Tyler radio station KGKB. In 2007, the TJC Alumni Association presented him their highest honor, the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

1962



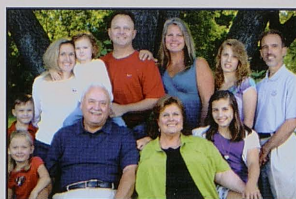
✪ **Judy Turman** writes that she and husband

✪ **Will** now have five beautiful grandchildren, ranging in age from 8 months to

10 years, and they all belong to daughter ✪ **Jennifer** and son-in-law Kyle. Son ✪ **Jed**

has moved back to Tyler and is working as a landman. He is also owner and head of Geodek, a computer-based mapping and title research company he started last year. Judy adds, "Kyle and Jenn live here, too—he's a cardiologist and she's a full-time mom." As a student at TJC, Judy was a member of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and the Apache Belles. She is a retired TJC English professor.

1963



**Joe Garner** writes in regards to the TJC Sports Circle of Honor, "Greetings everyone!

Sure wish I could be there to enjoy the festivities, to see the good old TJC campus and renew old friendships. I can just hear all the war stories that are going to be swapped — some of them may actually be true. I can't think of a finer group of guys to be tossed into the 'Big Spring Military Base' jail with! I was just thankful Coach Wag and Coach Richardson decided to get us out in time for the game! I really do treasure my two years at Tyler Junior College. Who could ever forget Frank Martin, Pinkie, Birdsong, or Bubba — or that tiny old barn we called Gentry Gymnasium? We all got a pretty good start in our lives and careers thanks to TJC and some outstanding faculty members. I'm sending along a snapshot of my family (son

and daughter, spouses and 5 grandchildren). Anna and I celebrated our 50th this summer—I'm finally getting her 'trained' if you know what I mean!" Joe currently lives in Waukesha, Wis. While attending TJC, he was a member of the Apache basketball team.

1966



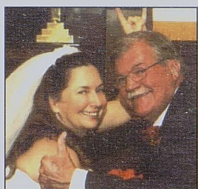
✪ **Vern Lewis** owner of ISLA clothing store on South Padre Island, also stays busy running his concrete staining business. He is president of the South Padre Island Hoops Committee and tournament director of the island's *Sweet 16 High School Invitational*. In his spare time—he loves to go fishing! He and wife Dainty have been married for 36 years and have two daughters. Vern, a member of the TJC "Ironman 8" Apache basketball team, was inducted into our 2012 Sports Circle of Honor luncheon in March. Pictured with Vern at the luncheon are teammates Jack Sweeny, (Vern), Harry Bostic and Terry Stillabower.



# CLASSNOTES

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✪ **Marion "Mutt" and Nancy Pugh** have been best friends since TJC and finally married in July 2009 in Grand Saline. They are enjoying going to football games, fishing and just being together.

## 1968

**Carol Sewell** announced the release of her latest book last year, "We the People: Know the Past, Understand the Present, Secure the Future." Carol says she wrote the book to equip Christians with the information they need to teach their children and grandchildren about the biblical worldview, America's true history and our system of government. While attending TJC, Carol was a member of the Apache Belles.

## 1969

★ **Juanita Taylor**, after the death of her husband, she enrolled in a master's program in pastoral counseling and is currently working on a degree.



✪ **Dr. Cheryl Whisenant Rogers** recently received the 2012 Arts in Education Award for her lifelong dedication to promoting the arts in East Texas. Cheryl, a

former Apache Belle, former director of TJC's Harmony & Understanding and former division director of our Fine and Performing Arts department, is currently the executive director of Institutional Effectiveness, Planning and Research for TJC. She and her husband, Michael, have two children and two grandchildren.

## 1970



✪ **Aaron Bonds** is retiring after 27 years as an educator and coach. A native of Alice and former all-state linebacker at his high school, he became a member of the Apache football team in 1968. After TJC, he received

a scholarship to play at North Texas State University. Following a 13-year career working for the federal government, Bonds went back to his love of football and became a coach. He says his retirement plans include spending more time with his family, especially his 11-year-old grandson. In 2001,

the TJC Alumni Association presented him with the Special Recognition Award for his work with youth in after-school programs and sports.

## 1971



✪ **Carleta Cates** with members of the first Harmony & Understanding performance group

practicing a special song they performed at their reunion in November. Pictured above

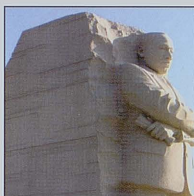
★ **James Beard, Danny Burgess, Bobbye Rucker, Carleta, Carl Adams and Esther Broughton-Milton.**

✪ **Jack Chelf, Jr.** has been the pastor of First Baptist Church of Rockdale since 2002. His son, Gregory, is a freshman at Mary Hardin-Baylor and plays on their football team.

## 1973

★ **Mary L. Davis** moved back to the Tyler area and lives at Oakbrook Healthcare Center in Whitehouse. She writes that she is glad to be back and near her family.

## 1974



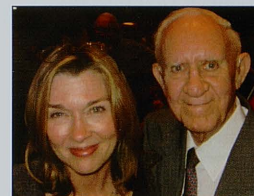
✪ **Theresa Smith Browne**, who serves on the Brothers and Sisters Reunion Committee, took a trip to Washington, DC, in August for the ribbon-cutting celebration

honoring the unveiling of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial. She writes that she arrived on the first of the four-day celebration and hit the ground running! "I attended the ribbon-cutting and many of the other events. The monument was open every day/night until 9 p.m., so I went back several times to see it." And adds, "I saw and was photographed with many celebrities, did the White House/Capitol tours and went to more than enough of the events to say, Yes, the dedication happened. The celebrations went on around the clock, despite the fact that the official dedication was postponed until October due to Hurricane Irene but the weather in D.C. turned out to be fine." The 30-foot memorial granite statue of Dr. King officially opened to the public on Aug. 22 and conveys three themes that were central

throughout his life – democracy, justice and hope.

✪ **Nicholas Hope Wilkinson**, shares his good news—"We have dedicated our most recently published comedy, *Dashing Through the Snow*, to TJC Theatre Professor Jacque Shackelford. It is our 8th play to be published by Dramatists Play Service NYC and we were thrilled to include Jacque in the dedication. Her name will forever appear in the published version of the play in hopes that she might get some well-deserved ink. She is adored and appreciated by thousands!"

## 1976



**Donna Bullock and husband Howard Sherman** recently flew to Buenos Aires, Argentina to do a commercial for MasterCard.

The spot shows how MasterCard's worldwide acceptance enables travelers to follow their passions, including shopping, dining and the Tango! In November, she flew in from New York City to surprise her favorite teacher, J.W. Johnson (pictured above), at a reunion for former Harmony & Understanding students. At the reunion, she serenaded Johnson with "It Had to Be You," then later attended the Pops Concert together.

## 1977

**Linda J. Price** has retired from First Baptist Church in downtown Tyler, where she worked for 17 years. She writes that she also worked at Medical Center Hospital and at Trane – and adds that she loves Tyler!

## 1979

**Holly Ford**, tennis coach for Spring Hill ISD, was named the 2010 Sectional Coach of the Year for girls' tennis by the National Federation of State High School Associations. Holly has produced 45 individual district championships, 30 district runner-ups, and 11 regional champions in her 28-year career. A graduate of Gladewater High School, after TJC, she attended Baylor University and began her coaching career at Cypress-Fairbanks. She has also served as the Class 3A Regional Team Tennis Tournament director since 1997 and was named TTCA Class 3A Coach of the Year in 2008.



# CLASSNOTES

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1981



◉ **Dee Eden Schueler**, former Apache Belle, had always wanted to be a nurse and her husband ◉ **Mark** ('80) encouraged her to go back to school and start the LVN program located at Eastfield College. There she

earned both a vocational nursing certificate and associate's degree in nursing, then received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from UT Tyler. Dee currently works for a specialty pharmacy in the home care division, providing support for physicians. Feeling strongly that it's never too late to learn, Dee earned specialization credentials in infusion therapy (CRNI), a second-degree black belt in tae kwon do and advanced scuba diving and rescue certification through Eastfield. Dee's son Derek ('05) also attended TJC and was a Belle Guard. Dee and Mark live in the Mesquite area.

1983



◉ **Pat** and ◉ **Kay Snow** traveled to Texas last May to attend oldest son Logan's graduation from Baylor University. During their trip they

decided to take the long way and go through Tyler so they could visit with their "second parents", ◉ **Emma Lou** ('46) and ◉ **Kenneth Prater** ('70). They write, "The Praters were essential to our college days. We talked a lot about who we cheered with and if we knew where anyone was, had a great lunch and good fellowship! We could not decide how long it had been since our last trip to Tyler. It had been awhile." Last July, they moved from Alexandria, Va., where he was with the Defense Media Activity to Fort Meade, Md. Pat entered the U.S. Air Force in August 1983 and plans to retire in September 2013. He and Kay have two sons, Logan Tyler (23) and Christian Ducey (19). While attending TJC, Pat was a mascot, cheerleader, vice president of TJC Student Senate and a member of Pi Kappa Alpha.



**Terry Gipson**, a Tyler native, is running for the New York State Senate. Terry attended TJC from 1981-83, first as a land survey major and then switching to theater. He transferred to Texas Tech

University and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in scenic and lighting design. He went on to receive a Master of Fine Arts in Theater from Penn State University in 1991. Terry spent many years in New York City working in the entertainment design industry and worked as a staff set designer at MTV Networks for 8 1/2 years. Five years ago, Terry and his wife Michelle relocated to Rhinebeck, N.Y., where they own and operate Gipson Design Group Inc. -- <http://GipsonDesignGroup.com>. Terry's company is in its seventh year and specializes in custom scenic design for live shows, events, and exhibits. Terry is also an elected official on the Rhinebeck Village Board and launched his campaign for State Senate last spring. For more information on Terry's campaign please visit <http://TerryGipsonNY.com>.

**Suzanne Baldon** is a forensic science instructor at the McLennan Community College Emergency Services Education Center in Waco. After graduating from TJC with an Associate of Arts degree, she earned her bachelor's at UT Tyler and her master's in anthropology from UT Arlington. Suzanne, who works with clay in reconstructing crime victims' faces for police departments, said, "My job is the last resort. When all other efforts at identification fail, this is what we try. It's just a blessing to be able to provide closure to families and to help with law enforcement investigations." Over the years, she has reconstructed more than half a dozen faces and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in transformative studies at the California Institute of Integral Studies.

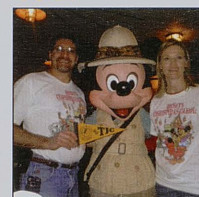
1986



**SPO Reginald D. Broughton**, a graduate of Whitehouse High School, TJC, the University of Houston and the Houston Police Academy, celebrated 21 years of service in February with the Houston Police Department. He is the brother of ◉ **Esther Broughton-Milton** ('71) and the son of Lilie T. Broughton and the late Ester B. Broughton of Whitehouse.

★ **Ted Dauphin** moved to New York in August 2010 for a new job. In September of that year, Ted and wife Linda were married in Bogota, Colombia, where Linda's family lives. He continues to volunteer for overseas mission activities.

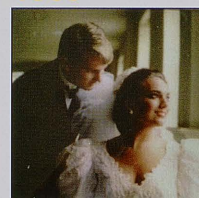
1987



◉ **Jon Jacobs** and wife **Paula** decided to do something a little different for Christmas 2011—Disney World! Jon's twin boys, age 11 1/2, had never been and he said the boys

carefully planned their route of attractions to see on a Disney map of each of the four parks, Magic Kingdom, Epcot, Animal Kingdom and Hollywood Studios. They arrived in Orlando on Christmas Day, experienced all the parks and spent New Year's Eve at Magic Kingdom watching the fireworks over Cinderella's castle. Jon writes that they thoroughly experienced Disney and made lifelong memories. He adds, "I find myself thinking about my TJC years—the many experiences and my lifelong memories of TJC. Those experiences and memories continue today as I have enjoyed serving on the TJC Alumni Board and having the opportunity to serve as the Alumni Board President during our 85th anniversary."

1989



◉ **Dr. J. Blair Blackburn** and wife ◉ **Michelle** ('90) celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary last August. Blair, executive vice president

of Dallas Baptist University and Michelle, a real estate agent, live in the Dallas area. While attending TJC, Blair was an Apache cheerleader. In 1999 the TJC Alumni Association presented him with the Valuable Young Alumnus Award.

1990



**Damon Carney**, an actor with credits in television, film, commercials and theater, recently landed a part in the new Johnny Depp movie, "The Lone Ranger." When not pursuing his acting career, Damon

can be found at his Arlington restaurant, The Tin Cup.



# CLASSNOTES

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✪ Denotes Lifetime Member

## 1991



✪ **Dr. Trampas Bass**, associate principal of Clear Lake High School for the past 14 years, was selected last summer to represent the Texas Association of Secondary School Principals (TASSP) as their Texas Outstanding

Assistant Principal of the Year. He was presented with an award and recognized in a commemorative booklet entitled "Texas Principals, Texas Heroes." After earning an Associate of Arts in Teacher Education at TJC, he received his bachelor's and master's degrees at Stephen F. Austin State University and his Doctor of Education in educational leadership degree from Sam Houston State University. Bass feels blessed to work with a great staff and mentors such as Dr. Chris Moran, Clear Lake High School principal, and Stan Tupman, Hudson Middle School principal. Other achievements include: the Sam Houston State University Jack Staggs Dissertation Award, the Hudson ISD Dare to Soar Award and the Hudson ISD Crystal Iceberg Award (2002).

## 1994



✪ **Jason Adams** became Huntington Independent School District high school principal last year. Before joining Huntington ISD, he

was a teacher, coach and assistant principal in Madisonville. After TJC, Jason earned his bachelor's at Sam Houston State and his masters' from the University of Arizona.

Proud parents ✪ **Sandy** ('74) and **Rick Adams** also live in Lufkin. Sandy, a coach and teacher, now works for son Jason!

✪ **Emma Lou** ('46) and ✪ **Kenneth Prater** are the proud grandparents. Jason and wife Crystal have one son, Kolby.

✪ **Rebecca Alejandro** married Joe Alejandro in 1999 and works as an operating room nurse. They have 2 children, Trey and Bianca. A former Apache Belle (92-94) and member of Phi Theta Kappa, after graduating from TJC, she attend UT Tyler and earned her degree in 1996.

## 1999



✪ **Carmin Marie Biggs**, a New York City TV news director, recently received her second Emmy for her work on WABC-TV Morning Newscast. After graduating from TJC and NYU, she moved back to Tyler to work

as a morning news producer at KLTV. Next she moved to Houston where she worked with news anchor ✪ **Dave Ward**. In 2009, Carmin was awarded the Valuable Young Alumnae Award.

## 2000



✪ **Brittany Batson**, a Tyler native who now lives in Los Angeles, released her first Christian album last spring, "One Way." Brittany grew up singing in her church and has

sung backup vocals for artists including Faith Hill, Jennifer Hudson and Aretha Franklin, and performed lead vocals with a band at the University of North Texas while she was studying public relations. She pursued a modeling and makeup artistry career that took her to New York and eventually to Los Angeles. When both fell through, she began working as a personal assistant and served as a worship leader at her church when a friend encouraged her to begin working on an album. Brittany is pictured with TJC Theatre Professor Jacque Shackelford at a past TJC Los Angeles Area Chapter Reception.

## 2001



✪ **Jennifer Michelle Taylor** and ✪ **Drew Calhoun**

**Hutson**, both of Tyler, were married July 30, 2011, at Green Acres Baptist Church. After TJC, the former Apache Belle head dance captain graduated from UT Tyler with her bachelor's and master's degrees in education. Jennifer, a teacher at Owens Elementary School, is an active member of Apache Belle Gold Board serving as Belle Babes chair.

## 2006

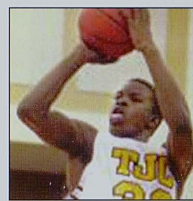


✪ **Chris Brown** was promoted from probationary firefighter to firefighter first class last May for the Marshall Fire Department. A native of Shreveport, La., he

resides in Tyler. Chris and wife Ashton, a graduate student at Texas A&M Commerce, will celebrate their second wedding anniversary this year. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Brown, also of Tyler. A graduate of Kilgore College Fire Academy, he completed his EMT-Paramedic training at Tyler Junior College and began employment with the Marshall Fire Department in May 2010.

## 2007

✪ **Ashton Smith** married **Chris Brown** ('07) in September 2010. Ashton is a Tyler Junior College admissions counselor and is working on her master's degree at Texas A&M University-Commerce.



✪ **Jimmy Butler**, a former member of the Apache basketball team, was drafted last summer by the Chicago Bulls as the final pick in the first round, 30th overall. He is only the second player

from TJC to be drafted into the NBA. Jimmy, who came to TJC as an academic qualifier, signed with Marquette after his freshman season and played three years for the Golden Eagles. After his college career, Butler began trying out for NBA teams. He participated in the NBA Draft Combine and was named the MVP of the 59th annual Portsmouth Invitational Tournament.

## 2008

✪ **Dorell Anthony** says he is living his dream—living in New York City and pursuing an acting career and writing the sequel to his first play. A graduate of Oakwood High School, after graduating from TJC, he earned his bachelor's in acting in 2010 from Texas State University in San Marcos. While attending TSU, his horror play, "Homecoming," made its debut at the school's theater.

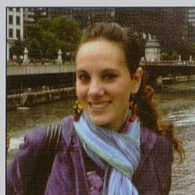


# CLASSNOTES

★Denotes Annual Member

⊕Denotes Lifetime Member

## 2010



★**Joanna M. Haddad** is working on completion of her core classes to transfer to the University of Texas at Arlington. She writes that she is still single and loves it here at TJC.

Pictured above is Joanna on a recent trip she made with her family to Chicago.

★**Alex D. Arrick** transferred to the University of North Texas and is living in the Dallas area.

★**Alice M. Dunn** has moved to Stillwater, Okla., where she is finishing her bachelor's degree at Oklahoma State University. In her spare time, she coaches her son's baseball team.

★**Whitney G. Rockwell** is pursuing a degree in nutrition at Stephen F. Austin State University and still has two more years to go. She writes that she is also considering returning to TJC and applying to the nursing program.

★**Stacy A. Sanchez** says that since graduating, her photography business has grown and she invites everyone to visit her website, [www.stacysanchezphotography.com](http://www.stacysanchezphotography.com).

★**Randy Marshall** is finishing his associate's degree at TJC to be a licensed paramedic and has finished the EMS instructor course and state exam for certification.

★**Ryan P. Miller** was hired at ETMC as a full-time neurology nurse on the ICU Unit in February 2011.

★**Leslie A. Oates** has a 1-year-old daughter named Ryiot Khloe Oates. She was born on Dec. 30, 2010.

★**Megan B. Gilbert** is continuing her education at the University of Texas at Tyler, where she is working on her bachelor's degree.

★**Edward L. Caldwell** is continuing his studies at the University of Texas at Tyler.

★**S. Katherine Brown** is working on her bachelor's degree in psychology at the University of Texas at Tyler.

★**Emily A. Smith** has transferred to the University of Texas at Tyler and is a double major in history and English.

★**Crystal R. Dunning** has worked with children and families for about three years. She enjoys everything about it and her job as a caregiver. About a year ago, she began working with special needs adults and her goal is to ultimately open her own childcare center and clothing line.

★**Kelly N. Alvarado** graduated from the TJC LVN program in 2010 and went right to work!

**Christina Walker** writes "It has been two years since I graduated and continued my education at the University of North Texas. This school has been a handful. From the outrageous tuition and fees to the challenging academics; it has been a crazy journey." This summer she is marrying her high school sweetheart and moving to Oklahoma City where he is stationed at Tinker Air Force Base. She adds, "There is so much I miss about TJC and my life in Tyler. I am no longer there, but I still am proud of my Apache roots. TJC equipped me with the correct tools to succeed in this four-year university. When I get a 'real' job, I will become a paying alumni because I think it is important to support TJC. It has made such an impact on my life. I may become a UNT alumni but TJC will always be home for me. GO APACHES!!!"

## 2011

★**Christopher Chalce** is now the owner of the new Complete Music franchise in Tyler.

★**Larry Nethery** is currently attending TJC and working toward his second degree, an Associate of Applied Science.



★**Ebony S. Evans** is now attending UT Tyler pursuing her bachelor's and master's degrees in psychology. Her goal is to eventually open a marriage and family counseling practice. She

adds that she and husband Vonior (pictured above) are also planning to start a family.

★**Kim A. Schumaker** was accepted into the TJC Medical Laboratory Technology Program and has moved to Tyler from Canton.

★**Michael McAuliffe** was recently hired as a correctional officer at TDCJ.

★**Kenneth A. Stanley** just started a new career as a petroleum landman.

★**Janet L. Adams** got her dream job as a psychiatric nurse in Rusk, after completion of the TJC associate degree nursing program.

★**Stacy L. Warren** is currently looking for a job where she can put her degree to use.

★**Aimee N. Allen** transferred to the University of Texas at Tyler to obtain a bachelor's and master's in psychology.

★**Terry C. Sims** is continuing his education at University of Texas at Tyler, where he is working toward a bachelor's degree in history.

★**Roldan Mejia** is working on his system administration degree.

★**Preston L. Rasberry** worked as an intern at Heartland Security Insurance Group and was hired full time after graduation.

**Heather L. Laverty** is working as a temporary dental hygienist until she finds a new job as a full-time hygienist.

★**Anita K. Hall** is continuing her education at TJC and is currently working on her associate's degree in childhood education.

★**Kami M. Fountain** is continuing her education at University of Texas at Tyler where she is embarking on a new major, vocal music education.

★**Laura S. Garcia** married Jorge Suarez last June and they had their first child in January. Laura is planning to continue her education at University of Texas at Tyler.

★**Ashley B. Gentry** is a pharmacist tech in training at CVS Pharmacy.

**James J. Counts** writes that he has joined the United States Air Force to do his part for his country.

**Emily M. Warlick** transferred to Baylor University where she is pursuing her bachelor's degree in child and family studies.

★**Holly L. Williams** moved to Hawaii last year to pursue a dental hygiene position in Oahu.



★**Charles E. Watkins** moved to Nacogdoches and is attending Stephen F. Austin University. He is majoring in biology with a minor in military science. In his spare time, he is an avid

geocacher with his children and also has a soft spot for his small collection of exotic snakes that he breeds.

★**Ashley L. Hayes** graduated May 13, 2011 and got a job May 29, 2011.



# CLASSNOTES

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✪ Denotes Lifetime Member

★ **Chloe M. Casse** writes that she got her one-year OPT working visa and is looking forward to a job. Last we heard, she was working as an intern at Greg Abbot Lawyer's office in downtown Tyler.

★ **David S. Haley** was married in 2010 and he and wife Elizabeth just bought their first house. He writes that he is seeking ministry opportunities for substance abuse, homelessness and re-integration from prison. He has been volunteering at Bradshaw State Jail as substance abuse specialist, and Elizabeth is a beautician.

★ **Brenda Mendoza** passed the nursing boards in September and started her new job in October. Her next goal is to return to school to finish prerequisites so she can be accepted into the LVN-to-ADN transition program and become a registered nurse.

★ **Traci L. Willingham** recently took a position at Glenwood Church of Christ in Tyler. She is attending the University of Texas at Tyler and is a member of their psychology club. Traci and her husband are also remodeling their house and they enjoy bow hunting.

★ **Jennifer N. Reed** is currently working toward her paramedic degree. She has two kids, ages three and four. Her goal is to continue her education and earn her ADN degree.

★ **Kurt D. Weiss** writes that immediately after graduating, he got a job at Rusk State Hospital and is enjoying his new career.

★ **Gloria D. McNatt** is a nurse at ETMC Jacksonville.

★ **Kristin L. Adams** is an LVN at the Timberwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

★ **Armistia G. Sanders** is working at Rusk State Hospital as a graduate vocational nurse.

**Richard E. Oliver** is beginning graduate school at UT Tyler and will be working on a master's in psychology with a neuropsychology specialization.

**David Rodrigues** is attending UT Tyler.

**Monica L. Mayfield** is currently attending Stephen F. Austin State University, to further her education and receive her bachelor's degree in elementary education.

★ **Sade S. Watson** now has a job as an LVN at Exceptional Homecare.

★ **Ashley C. Evans** recently earned her Emergency Medical Services Professions basic certification. She is continuing to pursue an EMSP associate's degree and become a licensed paramedic.

★ **Jonathan R. Voyles** is excited to announce that he has a new job at ETMC Tyler.

★ **Amber N. Mangum** says she will be signing on with Champion EMS as an EMT Basic while continuing working toward a paramedic associate's degree. She plans to continue working for Champion as a licensed paramedic.

★ **Charlie'Anna L. Rucker** writes that she is planning to open a childcare center in Lindale and will call it the Backyard Play Place.

★ **Shajuna L. Johnson** writes that she is waiting on a job in her field of study and adds that she is planning to go back to school to earn her bachelor's.

★ **Patricia A. Clary** transferred to Texas A&M University-Commerce, where she is working on her bachelor's degree in wildlife management with a minor in environmental science.

★ **Breezye M. Huddleston** wrote that she was expecting a baby in March.

★ **Spencer S. Lewis** wrote that he was applying for a College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative (CSPI) Scholarship from the United States Coast Guard.

★ **Alisha R. West** and husband Michael's first child was born on Jan. 10, 2012. They named their new son Micheal West Jr.

★ **Brandon C. Ingram** writes that he is working in the oil business.

★ **Theavus D. Brooks** is now working at StoneBridge Heating & Air Conditioning Mechanical Contractor AC Repair in Tyler.

★ **Julie A. Foster** has a daughter who just turned 10 years old. Julie and her husband are expecting their first son, William.

★ **Regan A. Hawkins** just received a promotion at work. She is pre-approved to buy a house and is hoping to be in her new home very soon.

★ **Jason D. Carter** is the assistant director of nursing at Lindale Healthcare. He was recently accepted to the University of Texas at Tyler where he plans to earn his master's degree in nursing.

✪ **Tara Broussard**, a former Apache Belle, plans to continue her dancing career with FC Dallas Dancers or Frisco Stars.

✪ **Kelcee Guyton** really enjoyed her time as an Apache Belle and adds that the group made her a better person, period! She states that aside from Belles, TJC was also a great experience for her first two years of college. Her next goal is to become a dental hygienist and she intends to "make it all the way there."

## Marriages

### 50th Wedding Anniversary

Commer Eugene Beam and Pat Beam, January 5, 1962, Bullard

### 60th Wedding Anniversary

Joe and Ann McGuire, May 5, 1951, Tyler

### TJC FAMILY

**Meredith Prior** and Justin Permenter, Tyler

Patti A. Ramey and **Jeremy J. Light**, Henderson

### 2000

Rachel A. Smith and **Robert L. Rayon, Jr.**, Killeen

### 2001

✪ **Jennifer M. Taylor** and ✪ **Drew C. Hutson** ('06), Tyler

### 2003

**Brandy K. Beddingfield** and John L. Smith, Gilmer

### 2004

Mandy Endsley and **Jeremy Caruthers**, Tyler

### 2006

**Sara C. Spradlin** and Klayton A. Register, Tyler

### 2007

**Holly R. Palmer** and Randall P. Miller, Waxahachie

### 2008

Renee L. Baley and **Justin L. Shipp**, Arp  
**Heather N. Clark** and **Robert J. Carroll**, Tyler



# CLASSNOTES

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Jordan E. Hall and **Bailey W. Potts**,  
Sulphur Springs

## 2009

**Jessica M. Bass** and **Michael H. Layne**,  
Mineola

**Alyssa M. Wheeler** and Darrin Peeples,  
Harrison County

## 2011

Ashley Clower and **Michael Gilbreath**,  
Mineola

**Rachel L. Damron** and Zachary G.  
Cannon, Jackson, Mississippi

Taryn M. Oldacre and **Kenneth B. Bain**,  
Wills Point

**Samantha K. Roberts** and **Michael T. Jewell**, Tyler

**Shontea R. Smith** and Marcus  
Montgomery, Jacksonville

## Memorials

### 1935

**Melba Brooks Kerr**, November 9, 2011,  
Tyler

### 1936

**J. Ralph Bickley**, January 31, 2012,  
Kennedale

### 1938

**Mary Helen Bost**, August 31, 2011, Dallas

**Stanley J. Scott**, November 23, 2011,  
Dallas

### 1939

**Gladys Shaw**, January 1, 2012, Lawrence,  
Kansas

### 1942

**Paul Leon Mitchell**, August 1, 2011, Tyler

### 1947

**Thomas E. Calhoun**, October 8, 2011,  
Tyler

**Bill Hollowell**, January 18, 2011, Grand  
Saline

### 1948

**H.G. "Bill" Corbin**, June 17, 2011, Tyler

### 1950

**Iwana Burk Long**, May 17, 2011, Lindale

## 1951

**Tommy L. Hancock**, February, 23, 2011,  
Nacona

**Seville Nunn**, March 16, 2011, Tyler

**Joe House**, September 8, 2011, Athens

**Nancy Hardee Schaefer**, December 13,  
2011, Chandler

**L. Jean Carter**, April 27, 2012, Tyler

## 1952

**Kenneth D. Lewis**, March 26, 2011, Tyler

## 1953

**Fred Fuller Clements**, July 4, 2011,  
Victoria

**James Albert "Red" Weaver**, January  
31, 2012, Fort Worth

## 1954

**Ronald B. Joplin**, February 21, 2012, Tyler

## 1955

**Jerry Ervin Haire**, April 29, 2011,  
Houston

## 1957

**Leland "Lip" Roberson**, September 10,  
2011, Eustace

**Suzan Potter Fincher**, December 27,  
2011, Sherman

## 1958

**Maxene Robinson**, October 12, 2011,  
Quitman

## 1960

**Geneva Jones Higginbotham**, February  
2, 2011, Timpson

**Lonnie K. Taylor, Jr.**, April 13, 2011,  
Abilene

## 1961

**John R. Cornelison**, June, 6, 2011, Troup

**Ronald Rider**, September 29, 2011,  
Houston

## 1962

**Sue Ivy Herrington**, February 1, 2012,  
Tyler

## 1963

**Tommy C. Wyatt**, January 18, 2012, Tyler

## 1966

**Patsy R. Beasley**, June 8, 2011, Tyler

## 1968

**Sydney D. Pate**, July 28, 2011, Tyler

**Stanley R. Johnson**, August 24, 2011,  
Tyler

## 1970

**Jonathan P. Hodges**, December 21, 2010,  
Oakwood

**John M. Phelan**, August 16, 2011,  
Longview

**Larry H. Reed**, December 20, 2011, Tyler

## 1971

**Mikel S. Irons**, February 26, 2011,  
Midland

**William I. Connally**, April 14, 2011, Tyler

## 1972

**Steven J. Roeland**, March 26, 2011, Tyler

**Charles C. Carroll**, December 30, 2011,  
Tennessee Colony

## 1974

**Beverly Beaird**, March 18, 2012, Tyler

**William Homer "Bill" Rube**, September  
23, 2011, Tyler

**Homer Charles "Bud" Praytor**, January  
29, 2012, Tyler

## 1975

**Forrest P. "Woody" Ploesser Jr.**,  
August 21, 2011, Tyler

**Catherine D. Mosley**, September 3, 2011,  
Tyler

**Diane L. Williams**, January 27, 2012,  
Tyler

## 1976

**Rhonda A. Smith**, October 25, 2011,  
Houston

## 1977

**Martha Jean Glass Hendry**, May, 2,  
2011, Jacksonville

**Jacqueline L. Moffit**, October 14, 2011,  
Tyler

**Allen "Big Al" Scott**, October 19, 2011,  
Tyler

## 1978

**Sandra Jones Long**, August 20, 2011,  
Tyler

## 1979

**Gary Tyler, Sr.**, October 22, 2011, Tyler



# CLASSNOTES

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## 1981

**Ed Campbell**, February 22, 2011, Tyler

**Stewart D. Jones**, April 8, 2011, Tyler

**Donald L. Nash**, May 9, 2011, Dallas

**Katherine "Kay" Ronzello**, August 7, 2011, Longview

**Howard Roberson**, January 18, 2012, Tyler

## 1982

**Howard "Slick" Nick**, January 13, 2011, Tyler

## 1983

**Margaret Scoby**, October 2, 2011, Tyler

## 1984

**E. Rowland Baldwin, Jr.**, July 28, 2011, Tyler

**G. Lynn Stegall**, January 26, 2012, Tyler

## 1985

**Floyd W. Stiefer**, February 11, 2011, Tyler

## 1986

**William H. Wagoner**, October 24, 2011, Tyler

**Danny W. McDow, Jr.**, January 29, 2012, Tyler

## 1987

**Martha Wade Crone**, April 3, 2011, Tyler

**Bettye Wyly Swanson**, July 23, 2011, Tyler

## 1988

**Richard Leibowitz**, January 13, 2011, Mineola

## 1991

**Clarence Hawkins**, April 13, 2011, Dallas

**Charles "Chris" Fenton**, August 8, 2011, Tyler

## 1992

**Al Cotton**, June 25, 2011, Kilgore

## 1993

**Joyce Gossett**, September 28, 2011, Tyler

## 1995

**Dwayne "Heath" Batton**, June 20, 2011, Tyler

## 1998

**Diana E. Moreira**, February 13, 2011, Tyler

## 2000

**Vivian Y. Miller**, October 29, 2009, Troup

**Jeremy G. Garrett**, June 18, 2011, Tatum

**Sara Plocheck**, July 11, 2011, Tyler

## 2003

**Kristen Reeves-Rainer**, July 1, 2011, Tyler

## 2004

**Jason Y. Sheppard**, February 10, 2012, Tyler

## 2008

**Carly N. Smith**, January 29, 2011, Tyler

**Tracie P. Hicks**, February 18, 2012, Tyler

## 2009

**Brook "BJ" Johnson**, February 4, 2011, Euless

**Taylor Ryan Chambers**, February 19, 2011, Lufkin

## 2010

**Amanda E. Anderson**, September 15, 2010

**Damien Carter**, February 25, 2011, Tyler

**Jamell Tucker**, April 1, 2011, Dallas

**Justin R. Sanders**, August 31, 2011, Tyler

## 2011

**Antonia "Ann" Garcia**, February 16, 2011, Tyler

**Ruth Crouch Wise**, March 27, 2011, Tyler

**Kendrick L. Clark**, May 10, 2011, Poynor

**Robert B. Christophersen**, August 19, 2011, Clarksville

**Steven A. Christian**, August 22, 2011, Tyler

**Windel B. Marshall**, November 1, 2011, Tyler

## TJC FAMILY

**Ruth L. Hart**, February 17, 2011, Tyler

**Marguerite Porter Hewitt**, March 2, 2011, Tyler

**Mary Helen Gaiser**, April 1, 2011, Tyler

**Lee Roger Knight**, June 9, 2011, Tyler

**Anthony "Tony" Fucher**, August 9, 2011, Brownsboro

**Jan E. Jones**, September 6, 2011, Tyler



## Coach "Babe"

**Hallmark**, February 9, 2012, Tyler

Babe served as an assistant football coach at TJC 1950 to 1963 and then head coach at Tyler Junior College from 1963 to 1969. His overall

coaching record was 148-60 with eight teams in Bowl games. He was inducted into the TJC Sports Circle of Honor in 1998. He was a general partner in Hibbs-Hallmark & Co. of Tyler.

**Carolyn Ratliff**, March 30, 2012, Tyler

## TJC FRIENDS

**Loyce L. Samford**, August 22, 2010, Nacogdoches

**Florine Beall Shank**, March 1, 2011, Jacksonville

**Robert "Bob" Layton, Jr.**, June 24, 2011, Tyler

**Col. William F. Brand, Jr.**, June 30, 2011, Tyler

**Bernice "Bee" Clark**, July 6, 2011, Tyler

**Pat L. Herd**, July 16, 2011, Tyler

**Foy C. Richey**, September 1, 2011, Englewood, Colo.

**Maxene Robinson**, October 12, 2011, Tyler

**Rev. Lou Gary Thomas**, October 28, 2011, Tyler

**James "Jim" Shillcutt**, December 4, 2011, Tyler

**Laura George Adams**, December 14, 2011, Tyler

**Bob Blitch**, January 15, 2012, Austin

**Send us your  
Class Note  
or  
Golden Memory**

Just email [alumni@tjc.edu](mailto:alumni@tjc.edu) or  
mail it to  
TJC Alumni  
P.O. Box 9020  
Tyler, TX 75711





*Great Balls of Fire: Comets, Asteroids, Meteors is a popular, interactive exhibit that allows explorers-in-training to simulate landing on an asteroid, then drilling and analyzing core samples. The exhibit is presented by Southside Bank.*

Hooten said students still seemed excited to visit before the renovation, but it was never clear if that excitement came from being on a field trip or from the show itself.

"The static slide images and dots on the ceiling have been replaced by full-dome video, 5.1 surround sound with two thumping subwoofers, a new nano-seam dome and high-contrast video," he said.

Hooten is fairly certain he's getting the students' attention now.

Located at the corner of Lake Street and Palmer Avenue, the science center is now able to offer real-time space flights and visits to other locations in the known universe, made possible by various interactive digital graphic software packages. TJC is one of two facilities in Texas to house the

Digistar 4 system and one of 50 worldwide.

The original Hudnall Planetarium remains an important part of the new science center and has been converted into an interactive area where visitors can enjoy ever-changing exhibits and plasma-screen displays with real-time video from NASA and the Space Telescope Science Institute.

The old Spitz A3P now stands sentry inside the main entrance of the new facility.

The center also includes an instructional/workshop space and a series of outdoor, educational plazas, including a 15-foot diameter, granite sundial etched with hour and month lines.

"There are so many different learning opportunities in this one facility, which is hopefully going to bring up the level of science literacy in East Texas," Hooten said.

Hooten said most children express interest in astronomy and dinosaurs when it comes to science; but something happens between elementary school and high school and there can be a disconnect.

One of the recommendations suggested by the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology was to create opportunities for inspiration through individual and group experiences outside the classroom.

"We want to catch them in the third grade, bring them into the light to show them that science is interesting," he said.

There is never a shortage of interesting at the science center.

In addition to the dome shows, the center plays



*Visitors get up close and personal with the 1430-pound Brenham Meteorite, the world's largest pallasite meteorite, on temporary loan to the science center.*




temporary host to myriad hands-on exhibits, including the 1,430-pound Brenham Meteorite, the world's largest oriented pallasite meteorite, which came to the center in November. Following its stay at TJC, the meteorite will embark on a world tour beginning in Australia and will likely not be on view again in the United States for another 10 years.

TJC has hosted many events and shows at the science center since its reopening. In December was the popular "Mystery of the Christmas Star" dome show; and in February, Valentine couples attended "Love Under the Stars," a show about romance and the constellations, with images set to a sweeping, classical music score. TJC is fortunate to have Suddenlink and CBS 19 partnering with the science center to make the community aware of this new educational resource.

Coming this summer will be "Egypt: Secrets of the Mummies" presented with support from Austin Bank.

"Really, we are limited only by our imaginations as to what we can accomplish here," Hooten said.

For more information on the Center for Earth & Space Science Education at TJC, or to check for show times or ticket information, go to [www.tjc.edu/cesse](http://www.tjc.edu/cesse); or find the center on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TJCCenterforEarthandSpaceScience](http://www.facebook.com/TJCCenterforEarthandSpaceScience). 

*Opening-day visitors to the science center had a chance to (top) learn about the planets in the instructional/workshop space and (bottom) take in the view through a telescope.*



#### *Welcome Gift, continued from page 19*

"The science center will reach and interest more people and students," LaVerne said. "Tyler has wonderful music and symphony programs, but there is only one planetarium for miles around. It is a hands-on, mesmerizing experience for every member of the family. It is a beautiful icon in Tyler and will bring guests from all over."

The Gollobos hope this will interest more students in enrolling at TJC in the future.

"This center is a calling card," she said. "When the brochure was presented to the Foundation board, I took it home and we studied it for a couple of months. We decided this would be an asset and make a wonderful long-time contribution to TJC and to Tyler. It will definitely enrich the lives of students of any age. People leave this amazing place and tell their friends and family. Adults and children alike are excited and totally blown away with the planetarium presentations, and they love the current rock exhibit."

The Gollobos encourage others to become involved with the Center for Earth & Space Science Education, which not only provides educational programming for schools and area families but offers a venue for club and organization meetings, corporate functions, community events and private parties.

For information on making a gift to the Center for Earth & Space Science Education at TJC, please contact the TJC Foundation at 903-510-2249.





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Tyler, Texas 75711-9020

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**2012**

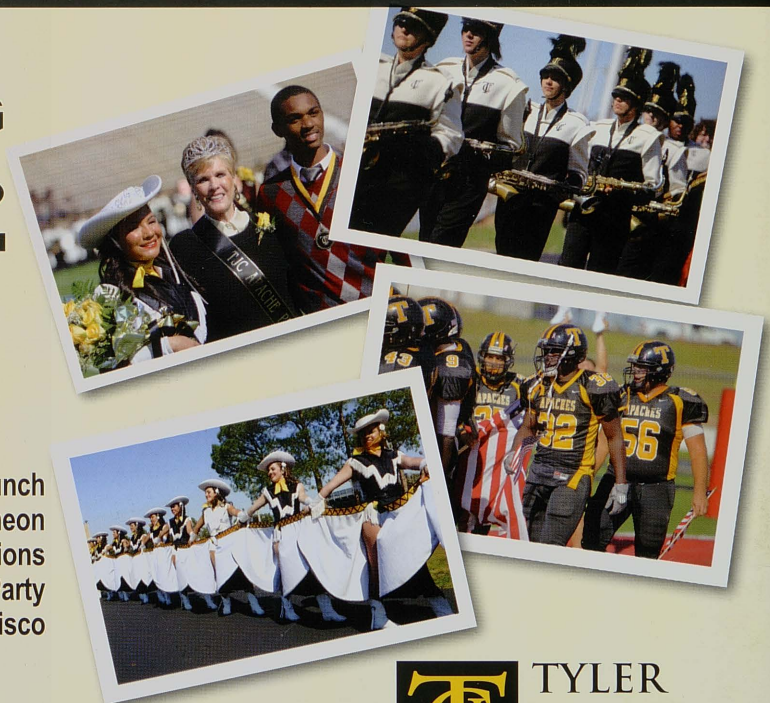
**Alumni Events**

**Saturday, October 13**

9:30 a.m..... Brothers & Sisters Brunch  
11:30 a.m..... Alumni Awards Luncheon  
2:30 p.m..... Reunions  
4:30 p.m..... Alumni Members' Tailgate Party  
7 p.m..... Apaches vs. Cisco

**REUNIONS**

Apache Belles 50th - Lines 13, 14 & 15 (1960-62)  
All Apache Belle Gold • Brothers & Sisters • Cheerleaders • Geology



**NOT A MEMBER? JOIN TODAY**—Use the enclosed membership application or join online at [www.tjc.edu/alumni](http://www.tjc.edu/alumni).  
For more information or to RSVP for events, contact Nicole Durham in the TJC Alumni Office at 903-510-2588 or email [alumni@tjc.edu](mailto:alumni@tjc.edu).